
DIVINITY

8041/23

Paper 2 The Four Gospels

October/November 2017

3 hours

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Answer **four** questions. If you choose to answer Question 1, answer in **one** version only.

Revised Standard Version of Question 1 is printed on page 2.

New International Version of Question 1 is printed on page 3.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

All questions in this paper carry 25 marks.



This document consists of **4** printed pages and **1** Insert.

REVISED STANDARD VERSION

- 1** Comment on points of interest or difficulty in **four** of the following passages (wherever possible answers should refer to the context of the passage but should not retell the story from which the passage is taken): [25]
- (a) And every one who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house upon the sand. (Matthew 7:26)
 - (b) “Why do your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat.” (Matthew 15:2)
 - (c) “...the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.” (Mark 1:3)
 - (d) Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, “I will; be clean.” (Mark 1:41)
 - (e) As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. (Luke 7:12)
 - (f) The master commended the dishonest steward for his prudence; for the sons of this world are wiser in their own generation than the sons of light. (Luke 16:8)
 - (g) When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?” (John 5:6)
 - (h) “Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” (John 12:5)

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

- 1 Comment on points of interest or difficulty in **four** of the following passages (wherever possible answers should refer to the context of the passage but should not retell the story from which the passage is taken): [25]
- (a) But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. (Matthew 7:26)
 - (b) “Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? They don’t wash their hands before they eat!” (Matthew 15:2)
 - (c) “...a voice of one calling in the desert, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’” (Mark 1:3)
 - (d) Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!” (Mark 1:41)
 - (e) As he approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out – the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her. (Luke 7:12)
 - (f) The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. (Luke 16:8)
 - (g) When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?” (John 5:6)
 - (h) “Why wasn’t this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year’s wages.” (John 12:5)

- 2 Discuss the importance of both righteousness and the Law in Matthew's Gospel. [25]
- 3 Examine how Matthew portrays the human side of Jesus' nature. [25]
- 4 'Mark's Gospel shows the ministry of Jesus as a progression of events leading to the crucifixion.' Discuss. [25]
- 5 Examine the role of Peter in Mark's Gospel. [25]
- 6 Assess the claim that Luke's only purpose was to show Christianity's universal nature and appeal. [25]
- 7 Explain Luke's use of sources in the writing of his gospel. [25]
- 8 How far does the first chapter of John's Gospel offer a summary of the main themes in the following chapters? [25]
- 9 'John's Gospel was written to interpret and to improve on the Synoptic Gospels.' Discuss. [25]
- 10 Discuss the reasons why Jesus' parables were often misunderstood. [25]
- 11 Analyse what the miracles of Jesus show about the culture of that time. [25]
- 12 Examine the reasons why Jesus encountered opposition during his ministry. [25]
- 13 Outline the main purposes behind the Gospels of Mark and John and identify their audiences. [25]
- 14 How far do the birth narratives in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke agree with each other? [25]

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in the Cambridge International Examinations Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at www.cie.org.uk after the live examination series.

Cambridge International Examinations is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.