



Cambridge International AS & A Level

BIBLICAL STUDIES

9484/32

Paper 3 Prophets of the Old Testament

October/November 2024

1 hour 30 minutes



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **four** questions in total:
 - Section A: answer **two** questions.
 - Section B: answer Question 4.
 - Section C: answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A

Answer **two** of the following three questions.

Answers should refer to the context of the passage wherever possible. Answers should not retell the story from which the passage is taken.

- 1 Outline points of interest or difficulty in the following passage.

1 Samuel 10:1–2, NRSVA

Samuel took a phial of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him; he said, ‘The LORD has anointed you ruler over his people Israel. You shall reign over the people of the LORD and you will save them from the hand of their enemies all around. Now this shall be the sign to you that the LORD has anointed you ruler over his heritage: When you depart from me today you will meet two men by Rachel’s tomb in the territory of Benjamin at Zelzah; they will say to you, “The donkeys that you went to seek are found, and now your father has stopped worrying about them and is worrying about you, saying: What shall I do about my son?”’ [5]

- 2 Outline points of interest or difficulty in the following passage.

Deuteronomy 18:9–13, NRSVA

When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you, you must not learn to imitate the abhorrent practices of those nations. No one shall be found among you who makes a son or daughter pass through fire, or who practises divination, or is a soothsayer, or an augur, or a sorcerer, or one who casts spells, or who consults ghosts or spirits, or who seeks oracles from the dead. For whoever does these things is abhorrent to the LORD; it is because of such abhorrent practices that the LORD your God is driving them out before you. You must remain completely loyal to the LORD your God. [5]

- 3 Outline points of interest or difficulty in the following passage.

Isaiah 50:4–6, NRSVA

The LORD GOD has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
The LORD GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backwards.
I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting. [5]

Section B

Answer Question 4

- 4 Read the following passage and then answer the question below:

2 Kings 2:9–12, NRSVA

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Discuss the view that Elijah's ascent to heaven is not literally true. Refer to the passage above and other passages you have studied in your answer. [15]

Section C

Answer **EITHER** Question 5 **OR** Question 6.

EITHER

- 5 'As a prophet, Amos was a success.' Evaluate this claim. [25]

OR

- 6 'Jeremiah's call to be a prophet gave him an impossible task.' How far do you agree? [25]

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