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## FOREWORD

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This booklet contains reports written by Examiners on the work of candidates in certain papers. **Its contents are primarily for the information of the subject teachers concerned.**

# **RELIGIOUS STUDIES (BIBLE KNOWLEDGE)**

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## **GCE Ordinary Level**

**Paper 2048/01**

**Luke and Acts (1-21:15) Short Answer Questions**

### **General comments**

On the whole, responses were varied. Some candidates managed to answer most of the set questions correctly, but many demonstrated a lack of knowledge, especially of Acts. Responses to questions on the gospel of Luke in both **Sections A** and **B** were generally good. In fact, it was satisfying to see generally good knowledge of this gospel. However, **Section B** caused problems for some candidates, especially the questions on Acts. For future examinations, it is recommended that Centres pay particular attention to the book of Acts, as well as developing candidates' skills in responding to **Section B** questions.

### **Comments on specific questions**

#### **Section A**

##### **Question 1**

Well-answered. Very few problems here, even among weaker candidates.

##### **Question 2**

Most candidates answered part **(a)** correctly. However, in part **(b)** many candidates referred to later comments Jesus made.

##### **Question 3**

Mixed responses here. A number of candidates indicated details other than birds and lilies.

##### **Question 4**

Many answered part **(a)** correctly. However, answers were often vague, referring to 'a poor woman', or 'the old woman'. Part **(b)** was well-answered.

##### **Question 5**

Responses here were mixed for part **(a)**. Various alternative (and incorrect) suggestions were made. However, part **(b)** caused fewer problems.

##### **Question 6**

This question caused some problems. Though most candidates managed to answer part **(a)** correctly, quite a large number of candidates suggested that Ananias, rather than Stephen, gave the proceeds of his sale to the apostles.

##### **Question 7**

Most answered this question correctly, though a substantial number of candidates suggested various incorrect alternatives for part **(b)**.

### Question 8

Mixed responses here. Part **(b)** especially caused some problems.

### Question 9

Many candidates managed to answer part **(a)** correctly. However, the majority of responses to part **(b)** were incorrect.

### Question 10

Many candidates did not know which god the people of Lystra thought Barnabas was. However, the majority answered the second part of the question correctly.

## Section B

### Question 11

This proved to be one of the best-answered questions in the whole of **Section B**. The vast majority of candidates scored highly, and a satisfying number achieved full marks for the question. There were very few problems with the first two parts of the question, while most candidates secured at least one mark for part **(c)**.

### Question 12

This question was also well-answered. However, many candidates suggested the lepers washing themselves seven times in the Jordan (taken from an Old Testament narrative), while a significant number were unaware that it was a Samaritan who returned to thank Jesus.

### Question 13

This question was answered somewhat poorly. While a high proportion of candidates were able to provide at least some relevant information about Tabitha (part **(b)**), too few answered part **(a)** correctly. Part **(c)** yielded mixed responses (for example, many candidates did not realise Tabitha had died).

### Question 14

Candidates offered various responses here, but on the whole this question proved to be the most difficult. Very few succeeded in answering all three parts correctly. Many secured two marks for the first part of the question, but answers to part **(b)** were mixed. Very few managed to answer part **(c)** correctly.

**Paper 2048/02**

**Luke and Acts (1-21:15) Essay Questions**

### General comments

On the whole, responses were varied. However, most candidates were able to answer at least one question well, while able candidates submitted four or five good answers and demonstrated an impressive knowledge and understanding of the text. Answers were equally divided between Luke and Acts; neither of the two fared more poorly than the other, indicating that candidates had studied both Bible books equally.

Part **(a)** questions generally yielded better responses than those for part **(b)**. For the second part of each question, too many candidates limited themselves to a simple descriptive account or re-telling of the narrative without discussing the material. To achieve good marks for part **(b)** questions, some discussion and demonstration of understanding is needed. Therefore, for future examinations, it is recommended that Centres pay particular attention to ensure candidates focus on description, or knowledge, for part **(a)** questions, and discussion for part **(b)** questions.

## **Comments on specific questions**

### **Section A**

#### **Question 1**

Well-answered. Most candidates demonstrated at least some knowledge of the text, while a large number were able to provide substantial and accurate details. However, many responses included part **(b)** material in part **(a)**, while some candidates confused this narrative with the foretelling of John the Baptist's birth. Also, many candidates attributed to Jesus titles that appear elsewhere in the gospels but not in this narrative.

#### **Question 2**

Not widely attempted. Part **(a)** was generally answered fully and accurately. However, for part **(b)** very few candidates secured marks at Level 4. Responses were often vague, with very few references to Jesus touching the coffin, or even his divine powers.

#### **Question 3**

This proved to be one of the most popular questions. Responses for part **(a)** were, on the whole, detailed and accurate, though many candidates unnecessarily recounted the whole story. However, part **(b)** responses were often very vague and lacked substance. There were a great number of candidates who could have written about forgiveness but did not.

#### **Question 4**

This was not a popular question. Those who attempted it experienced few problems with part **(a)**, though candidates rarely secured more than a very few marks for part **(b)**. Very occasionally, an able candidate would refer to Jesus as King and/or Messiah.

#### **Question 5**

This was a fairly popular question with a great deal of material to draw upon. In part **(a)**, candidates achieved good marks on the whole, though many muddled up the order of events. However, in part **(b)** very few responses recognised how the charges differed before the Council of the Elders and Pilate.

### **Section B**

#### **Question 6**

Answers in **(a)** were vague. Very few candidates identified and described Acts 2:42-47, while many responses detailed events and material (often inaccurately) scattered throughout the rest of the book of Acts.

Responses in **(b)** were better, with most candidates able at least to recall the narrative, though many limited themselves to a simple retelling of the story without discussing the material.

#### **Question 7**

Responses for part **(a)** were mixed. Many candidates were able to describe *why* the deacons were appointed, but some did not look at *how*. Some candidates were clearly confused between deacons, apostles and disciples. Nonetheless, some responses were accurate, detailed and thorough. Part **(b)** responses again were mixed, though most candidates were able to provide at least some relevant material.

#### **Question 8**

Part **(a)** was mostly well-answered. Candidates demonstrated good knowledge of this narrative. Most also managed to provide some relevant material for part **(b)**, though responses were often short and incomplete.

#### **Question 9**

This was a fairly popular question that yielded very many detailed and accurate responses for both parts.

#### **Question 10**

Again, part **(a)** responses were accurate and thorough, and most candidates were able to achieve some marks here. However, very few candidates succeeded in providing relevant and accurate material for part **(b)**.