

Write your name here

Surname

Other names

Centre Number

Candidate Number

Edexcel GCE

Religious Studies

Advanced

Unit 4: Implications – Christianity

Thursday 17 June 2010 – Morning

Time: 1 hour 15 minutes

Paper Reference

6RS04/1D

You do not need any other materials.

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Read the passage carefully.
- Answer **BOTH** part (a) and part (b) of the question.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Quality of written communication will be taken into account in the marking of all your responses.
– *you should take particular care with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression, on these questions.*

Advice

- The assessment of your answers will be based on your knowledge and understanding of the topic in question (for 60% of the marks) and your evaluative skills (for 40% of the marks).

Turn over ►

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Christianity

Revelation is a safer and surer guide to truth than philosophy. Any truths about God taught by the philosophers can be found in scripture as well, but unmixed with error and enriched by other truths. Reason and philosophy aren't to be despised, however. Reason is needed to understand what is proposed for belief and to make the divine speaker's claims to authority credible. Nor should reason be discarded once faith has been achieved. "God forbid that He should hate in us that faculty by which He has made us superior to all other living beings. Therefore, we must refuse so to believe as not to receive or seek a reason for our belief..." (Augustine, *Letters*). The mature Christian will therefore use reason and the insights of philosophy to understand (to the extent possible) what he already believes. But faith remains a precondition of the success of this enterprise. For some things must first be believed to be understood. "Therefore the prophet said with reason: 'If you will not believe, you will not understand'" (Augustine, *Letters*). Augustine is principally thinking, in this passage, of the Christian "mysteries" (the Trinity, Incarnation, and so on). Yet he clearly believes that sound faith is needed for *any* adequate understanding of God.

(Source: Wainwright W. 'Christianity' in Quinn P. and Taliaferro C. (eds)
A Companion to Philosophy of Religion, Blackwell, 2002)

1. (a) Examine the argument and/or interpretation in the passage. (30)
- (b) Do you agree with the idea(s) expressed? Justify your point of view and discuss its implications for understanding religion and human experience. (20)

(Total 50 marks)

TOTAL FOR PAPER 1D: 50 MARKS

Start your answer on page 3.



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TOTAL FOR PAPER 1D: 50 MARKS

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