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Other names

Pearson
Edexcel GCE

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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Religious Studies

Advanced

Unit 4: Implications – New Testament

Tuesday 21 June 2016 – Afternoon

Time: 1 hour 15 minutes

Paper Reference

6RS04/1J

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 question 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.*

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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PEARSON

New Testament

The death of Jesus has great religious and theological significance that believers claim has consequences for the whole of creation. Much of the language used is symbolic and particular images of the death of Jesus are offered.

- **Defeat of evil** – Jesus’s ministry has been depicted as a struggle against evil sometimes in the form of the Devil and the forces of darkness (as in the exorcism miracles), and at other times in the form of Jesus fighting against the power of sin in people’s lives. With his death and resurrection, Jesus is seen as having defeated the power of evil and sin for ever.
- **An example** – Jesus’s life of humility and love for others culminates in the sacrifice of his own life to save people from the power of evil. His life is an example to believers, to encourage them to lead lives of humility and self-sacrifice: *‘Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps’* (1 Peter 2:21).
- **A sacrifice** – in the ancient world, animals (and sometimes humans) were sacrificed in the hope of pleasing the gods, to seek favours or as a guilt offering for wrongful actions. In the Old Testament, sacrificial procedures were laid down specifically: *‘If a person sins and does what is forbidden in any of the Lord’s commands... He is to bring to the priest as a guilt offering a ram from the flock, one without defect and of the proper value. In this way, the priest will make atonement for him for the wrong he has committed’* (Leviticus 5: 17–18). At the time of the first Passover, the people of Israel are saved by the sacrifice of a lamb – the blood from the lamb being put on the doors of their houses to save them from destruction (Exodus 12:13).

The sacrificial rituals of Judaism were very elaborate – the animals were killed as a reminder to the people that they were sinners who deserved to die. The priest would take the blood of the animal to the altar as a symbol representing the sinner’s life being given up to God – the animal, in effect, died in the place of the sinful human. This was called an act of **atonement** and meant that the punishment due for the sins had been carried out. God, in accepting the sacrifice, forgave the human sinner. Jesus was the ultimate sacrificial lamb. In the Last Supper he showed how his death would lead to the forgiveness of sins and the reconciliation of God and humanity: *‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you’* (Luke 22:20), and Paul wrote, *‘For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed’* (1 Corinthians 5:7).

(Source: adapted from Gordon Reid and Sarah Tyler, ‘Why did Jesus have to die?’, *Advanced Religious Studies*, Philip Allan Updates, 2002, Edexcel Anthology)

- 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 for Question 1 = 50 marks)

Start your answer on Page 3.



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TOTAL FOR PAPER 1J = 50 MARKS

