

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS General Certificate of Education Advanced Level

## DIVINITY

Paper 1 Prophets of the Old Testament
October/November 2012
3 hours
Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

## READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.
Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.
Answer four questions.
Answer Question 10 in Section C and three other questions, including at least one question from Section A and one from Section B.
Answer Question 10 in one version only.
Revised Standard Version of Question 10 begins on page 3.
New International Version of Question 10 begins on page 5.
You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.
At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.
All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

## Section A

Answer at least one question from this section.

## Prophecy in general and Pre-canonical Prophets

1 Examine the ways in which pre-canonical prophets delivered their messages.

2 Discuss the view that there was no clear difference between 'true' and 'false' prophets in Ancient Israel.

3 Compare and contrast Moses' roles as a leader and as a prophet.

4 'More than any other figure, he kept Yahweh worship alive in Israel.' In your view, is this more true of Samuel or of Elijah?

5 'The actions of pre-canonical prophets led to the deaths of so many people that we cannot regard these prophets as good men.' Examine this view.

## Section B

Answer at least one question from this section.
Pre-exilic Prophets, with special reference to Amos, Hosea, Isaiah of Jerusalem and Jeremiah

6 Explain why those who heard the prophecies of Amos found his message so hard to accept. [25]

7 In your view, what was the biggest influence on the prophecies of Hosea?

8 Discuss the view that Jeremiah had many different sides to his character.

9 'There was no real difference between pre-exilic and pre-canonical prophets.' How true is this claim?

## Section C

Answer Question 10 in one version only.

## REVISED STANDARD VERSION

10 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):
(a) I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brethren; and I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.
(Deuteronomy 18:18)
(b) And I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LorD will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever.
(2 Samuel 7:10-13)
(c) ... And behold, there came a voice to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the people of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thy altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away." And the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria; and Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel; and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place.
(1 Kings 19:13b-16)
(d) And the king of Israel said, "Seize Micaiah, and take him back to Amon the governor of the city and to Joash the king's son; and say, 'Thus says the king, "Put this fellow in prison, and feed him with scant fare of bread and water, until I come in peace." '" And Micaiah said, "If you return in peace, the LORD has not spoken by me." And he said, "Hear, all you peoples!"

So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth-gilead.
(1 Kings 22:26-29)
(e) In that day the fair virgins and the young men shall faint for thirst.
Those who swear by Ashimah of Samaria, and say, "As thy god lives, O Dan," and, "As the way of Beer-sheba lives," they shall fall, and never rise again.
(f) Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity.
Take with you words and return to the LORD;
say to him,
"Take away all iniquity;
accept that which is good and we will render the fruit of our lips.
Assyria shall not save us, we will not ride upon horses;
and we will say no more, 'Our God,' to the work of our hands.
In thee the orphan finds mercy."
(Hosea 14:1-3)
(g) And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, between me and my vineyard.
What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it?
When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?
(Isaiah 5:3-4)
(h) In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and his train filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim; each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said:
"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory."
And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke.
(Isaiah 6:1-4)
(i) Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help and rely on horses,
who trust in chariots because they are many and in horsemen because they are very strong,
but do not look to the Holy One of Israel or consult the LORD!
(Isaiah 31:1)
(j) The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: "Stand in the gate of the Lord's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the Lord, all you men of Judah who enter these gates to worship the Lord. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, Amend your ways and your doings, and I will let you dwell in this place. Do not trust in these deceptive words: 'This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD.'"
(Jeremiah 7:1-4)
(k) Thus said the Lord, "Go, buy a potter's earthen flask, and take some of the elders of the people and some of the senior priests, and go out to the valley of the son of Hinnom at the entry of the Potsherd Gate, and proclaim there the words that I tell you. You shall say, 'Hear the word of the Lord, O kings of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, Behold, I am bringing such evil upon this place that the ears of every one who hears of it will tingle.'"
(Jeremiah 19:1-3)

## NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

10 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):
(a) I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers; I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I command him.
(Deuteronomy 18:18)
(b) And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people shall not oppress them any more, as they did at the beginning and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.

The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever.
(2 Samuel 7:10-13)
(c) Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

He replied, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

The Lord said to him, "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet.
(1 Kings 19:13b-16)
(d) The king of Israel then ordered, "Take Micaiah and send him back to Amon the ruler of the city and to Joash the king's son and say, 'This is what the king says: Put this fellow in prison and give him nothing but bread and water until I return safely.'"

Micaiah declared, "If you ever return safely, the Lord has not spoken through me." Then he added, "Mark my words, all you people!"

So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of Judah went up to Ramoth Gilead.
(1 Kings 22:26-29)
(e) In that day
the lovely young women and strong young men will faint because of thirst.
They who swear by the shame of Samaria, or say, "As surely as your god lives, O Dan", or, "As surely as the god of Beersheba lives" -
they will fall, never to rise again.
(Amos 8:13-14)
(f) Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God.

Your sins have been your downfall!
Take words with you
and return to the Lord.
Say to him:
"Forgive all our sins
and receive us graciously,
that we may offer the fruit of our lips.
Assyria cannot save us;
we will not mount war-horses.
We will never again say 'Our gods’
to what our own hands have made,
for in you the fatherless find compassion."
(g) Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.
What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it?
When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad?
(Isaiah 5:3-4)
(h) In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another:
"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory."
At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.
(Isaiah 6:1-4)
(i) Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, who rely on horses, who trust in the multitude of their chariots and in the great strength of their horsemen, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel, or seek help from the LORD.
(Isaiah 31:1)
(j) This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: "Stand at the gate of the Lord's house and there proclaim this message:

Hear the word of the Lord, all you people of Judah who come through these gates to worship the LORD. This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Reform your ways and your actions, and I will let you live in this place. Do not trust in deceptive words and say, 'This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the LORD!'"
(Jeremiah 7:1-4)
(k) This is what the Lord says: "Go and buy a clay jar from a potter. Take along some of the elders of the people and of the priests and go out to the Valley of Ben Hinnom, near the entrance of the Potsherd Gate. There proclaim the words I tell you, and say, 'Hear the word of the Lord, O kings of Judah and people of Jerusalem. This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Listen! I am going to bring a disaster on this place that will make the ears of everyone who hears of it tingle.'"
(Jeremiah 19:1-3)

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