1.2 Different Christian Interpretations of the Genesis Creation Accounts: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8062 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer the short questions in note form where possible. Two extended questions (one 6-mark and one 15-mark with SPaG) should be written in full sentences. Time guidance: 10 minutes total.

1 This question checks key vocabulary used when Christians discuss interpretations of Genesis 1 in the context of origins debates.

(a) Which one of the following best describes a 'literalist' reading of Genesis 1 in the context of Christian belief about origins? **(1)**

- ☐ A. The six days are symbolic and compatible with scientific timescales
- ☐ B. The six days are literal 24-hour periods and the account is factual
- ☐ C. Genesis is a later myth with no connection to God as creator
- ☐ D. Genesis records only moral teachings and rejects any historical meaning

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

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2 Define the term 'literalism' as it is used by some Christians when interpreting the Genesis creation accounts.

(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)

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3 Outline two reasons why some Christians interpret Genesis 1 literally, in the context of debates about creation.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

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4 Give three phrases or images from the Genesis accounts that some Christians interpret as symbolic or metaphorical rather than literal scientific description.

(Total for Question 4 is 3 marks)

5 State two features of young-earth creationist practice or emphasis within some Christian communities, and briefly explain the purpose of each feature.

(Total for Question 5 is 4 marks)

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Mark scheme · 1.2 Different Christian Interpretations of the Genesis Creation Accounts: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

(a) selecting option B, the six days are literal 24-hour periods and the account is factual **B1**

(a) Answer: B

Question 2

a definition that says literalism treats the Genesis account as factual, historical and usually chronological, oe **B1**

Answer: Treating the Genesis account as factual history, with the six days taken as literal, chronological days.

Question 3

reason 1: some believe Scripture is inerrant, so Genesis must be historically accurate, oe **B1**

reason 2: it upholds traditional teaching about humanity made directly by God, supporting moral authority and purpose, oe **B1**

Answer: Any two reasons including such points as: belief in biblical inerrancy; preserving traditional teaching that God created humans directly; rejecting human-led scientific explanations seen as conflicting with Scripture.

Question 4

the 'six days' as a phrase, oe **B1**

the description of God 'breathing' life into Adam, oe **B1**

the ordering of creation (light before sun) as thematic rather than chronological, oe **B1**

Answer: Any three: the 'six days'; God breathing life into Adam; literary ordering such as light created before the sun, understood as thematic.

Question 5

feature 1: regular teaching emphasising biblical inerrancy, oe **B1**

meaning 1: to reinforce confidence in the Bible as authoritative and resist secular interpretations, oe **B1**

feature 2: apologetics and education promoting creation science or critique of evolution, oe **B1**

meaning 2: to defend a literal Genesis reading and equip believers against secular or scientific challenges, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. teaching biblical inerrancy to reinforce scriptural authority; active apologetics and educational programmes critiquing evolution, done to defend a literal Genesis reading and equip believers against secular challenges.

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