1.3 Christian Beliefs About the Atonement and the Meaning of the Cross: Test Pack

AQA 8062 · about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 This question checks a basic definition used in Christian theology about the cross, in the topic of atonement.

- [ ] Atonement means the removal of all records of wrongdoing so that nothing is remembered,
- [ ] Atonement is the process by which humans are reconciled with God through Jesus' death,
- [ ] Atonement is the idea that humans no longer need moral rules,
- [ ] Atonement is a title given to Old Testament prophets

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

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2 Which day in the Christian calendar particularly commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus on the cross?

- [ ] A: Ash Wednesday
- [ ] B: Palm Sunday
- [ ] C: Good Friday
- [ ] D: Pentecost

(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)

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3 Outline three Christian beliefs about what Jesus' death on the cross achieved, in the context of the doctrine of atonement.

(Total for Question 3 is 3 marks)

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4 State two ways Christians sometimes talk about the cross as a victory over death and evil, in the context of hope and resurrection.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

5 Give two ways Christian believers might respond in worship to the meaning of the cross, focusing on practice and attitude.

(Total for Question 5 is 2 marks)

6 Give three differences between Catholic and many Protestant emphases about the role of the cross in salvation, in the context of Christian teaching on atonement.

(Total for Question 6 is 3 marks)

7 Explain two contrasting Christian beliefs about the meaning of the atonement, for example substitutionary atonement and moral influence theory.

(Total for Question 7 is 4 marks)

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Mark scheme · 1.3 Christian Beliefs About the Atonement and the Meaning of the Cross: Test Pack

Question 1

selecting the option that defines atonement as the process by which humans are reconciled with God through Jesus' death, oe — **B1**

Answer: Atonement is the process by which humans are reconciled with God through Jesus' death.

Question 2

selecting option C, Good Friday, cao — **B1**

Answer: C

Question 3

belief 1: it brings forgiveness of sins, oe — **B1**

belief 2: it acts as a sacrifice or substitute offering for humanity, oe — **B1**

belief 3: it defeats the power of sin and death, giving believers hope of new life, oe — **B1**

Answer: Any three: forgiveness of sins; a sacrificial substitute for humanity; victory over sin and death leading to new life.

Question 4

it is spoken of as defeating death, so believers have hope of eternal life, oe — **B1**

it is described as Christ's triumph over the powers of evil, freeing people from spiritual bondage, oe — **B1**

Answer: E.g. defeat of death giving hope of eternal life; triumph over the powers of evil freeing people from spiritual bondage.

Question 5

response 1: thanksgiving and praise for Christ's saving work, expressed in hymns, prayers or Eucharist, oe — **B1**

response 2: repentance and commitment to moral change, seeking to live in gratitude for forgiveness, oe — **B1**

Answer: E.g. giving thanks in worship and Eucharist; repentance and renewed moral commitment in light of forgiveness from the cross.

Question 6

difference 1: Catholics often stress the role of the Mass and sacraments in applying Christ's saving work, whereas Protestants stress faith alone, oe — **B1**

difference 2: Catholics may emphasise participation in the Church's ongoing sacramental life, Protestants emphasise personal trust in the finished sacrifice, oe — **B1**

difference 3: Catholics may use sacrificial language tied to liturgy, Protestants may stress forensic language of justification and imputed righteousness, oe — **B1**

Answer: Any three differences: Mass/sacraments application vs faith alone emphasis; participation in Church life vs personal trust in finished sacrifice; liturgical sacrificial language vs forensic justification language.

Question 7

belief 1: substitutionary atonement teaches Jesus died in the place of sinners, taking punishment so humans can be forgiven, oe — **B1**

development: this emphasises justice satisfied through Christ's sacrifice and is often associated with Protestant theological traditions, oe — **B1**

belief 2: the moral influence theory sees the cross as demonstrating God's love, inspiring moral change in humans rather than satisfying a penalty, oe — **B1**

development: this view focuses on personal transformation and the example of Jesus' self-giving love, and is found in various liberal or non-substitutionary traditions, oe — **B1**

Answer: Contrast: substitutionary atonement, Jesus as punished substitute (emphasis on justice), versus moral influence, the cross as example of God's love that changes people internally.

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