



RS.CB4 Sin, Law, Grace and Salvation

AQA 8062 · Calculators not allowed · about 55 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Answer ALL questions. Show all your working.

- 1** This question checks key vocabulary used in Christian teaching about sin, law, grace and salvation.
- (a) Give one word that means a wrongdoing that goes against God's law. (1)
- (b) State what is meant by grace, in Christian belief. (1)
- (c) State what Christians mean by 'the Fall'. (1)
- (d) State what is meant by salvation. (1)
- (e) Give one name Christians use for Jesus's role in achieving salvation for humanity. (1)

(Total for Question 1 is 5 marks)

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- 2** Give three Christian teachings about sin.

(Total for Question 2 is 3 marks)

- 3** Explain two Christian teachings about how a person may achieve salvation. Refer to scripture or another source of Christian belief and teaching in your answer.

(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)

- 4** Explain two contrasting Christian beliefs about the relationship between faith and good works in salvation. Refer to a source of wisdom and authority in your answer.

(Total for Question 4 is 5 marks)

5 This question is about Christian beliefs concerning faith, works and salvation. It is the AQA-style 24-mark, five-part question: parts (a) to (d) below are worth 12 marks; the 12-mark evaluation, part (e), is Question 6.

- (a)** State one word Christians use to describe reconciliation between God and humanity, achieved through Jesus. (1)
- (b)** Give two ways Christians believe a person receives God's grace. (2)
- (c)** Explain two Christian teachings about the role of Jesus in achieving salvation for humanity. Refer to scripture in your answer. (4)
- (d)** Explain two contrasting Christian beliefs about whether a person's own good deeds can help to achieve salvation. Refer to a source of wisdom and authority in your answer. (5)

(Total for Question 5 is 12 marks)

- 6** This is the final part of the 24-mark question that began in Question 5. Evaluate this statement: 'Christians believe you cannot get to heaven through your own good deeds.' In your answer you should: refer to Christian teaching, refer to different points of view, reach a justified conclusion.

(Total for Question 6 is 12 marks)

- 7** Explain two ways a belief in salvation might affect the life of a Christian believer today.

(Total for Question 7 is 4 marks)

- 8** Give three sources of authority Christians use to learn about salvation.

(Total for Question 8 is 3 marks)

Mark scheme · RS.CB4 Sin, Law, Grace and Salvation

Question 1

- (a) **B1** sin, oe
- (a) **Answer: Sin.**
- (b) **B1** God's freely given, unearned love and forgiveness towards humanity, oe
- (b) **Answer: God's free and unearned love and forgiveness.**
- (c) **B1** the first sin of Adam and Eve, described in Genesis 3, through which sin entered the world, oe
- (c) **Answer: The first sin of Adam and Eve (Genesis 3), through which sin entered the world.**
- (d) **B1** being saved from sin and its consequences, oe
- (d) **Answer: Being saved from sin and its consequences.**
- (e) **B1** Saviour / Redeemer, oe
- (e) **Answer: Saviour (or Redeemer).**

Question 2

- **B1** all humans are born with original sin, inherited from Adam and Eve, oe
- **B1** sin separates humans from God, oe
- **B1** sin is any thought, word or action that goes against God's law or will, oe
- **Answer: Any three: original sin inherited from Adam and Eve; sin separates people from God; sin is any thought, word or action against God's will.**

Question 3

- **B1** point 1: salvation comes through faith in Jesus Christ, oe
- **B1** development: Ephesians 2:8-9 teaches that Christians are saved by grace through faith, not as a result of their own works, oe
- **B1** point 2: salvation comes through Jesus's death and resurrection (atonement), oe
- **B1** development: Christians believe Jesus's death on the cross paid the penalty for humanity's sin, reconciling people with God, oe
- **Answer: E.g. (1) salvation through faith, supported by Ephesians 2:8-9; (2) salvation through Jesus's atoning death and resurrection.**

Question 4

- **B1** belief 1: some Christians (e.g. many Protestants) believe salvation is through faith alone (sola fide), oe
- **B1** development: based on Ephesians 2:8-9, which states salvation is by grace, through faith, and not by works, oe
- **B1** belief 2: other Christians (e.g. the Roman Catholic Church) believe faith must be accompanied by good works, oe
- **B1** development: based on James 2:26, which teaches that faith without deeds is dead, so good works are seen as a necessary part of genuine faith, oe
- **B1** reference to a source of wisdom and authority is made accurately, oe
- **Answer: Contrast: faith alone (sola fide, Ephesians 2:8-9) vs faith accompanied by good works (James 2:26, reflected in Catholic teaching).**

Question 5

- (a) **B1** atonement, oe
- (a) **Answer: Atonement.**
- (b) **B1** through faith in Jesus Christ, oe
- (b) **B1** through the sacraments (e.g. baptism, Eucharist), oe
- (b) **Answer: E.g. through faith in Jesus, and through the sacraments.**
- (c) **B1** point 1: Jesus's death on the cross is believed to have paid the penalty for humanity's sin, oe
- (c) **B1** development: this is described in Christian teaching as substitutionary atonement, in which Jesus suffers the consequence of sin in humanity's place, oe
- (c) **B1** point 2: Jesus's resurrection is believed to show that he defeated sin and death, oe
- (c) **B1** development: this gives Christians hope of eternal life, since the resurrection is seen as a sign of victory over death, oe
- (c) **Answer: E.g. Jesus's death as substitutionary atonement for sin; Jesus's resurrection as victory over death, giving hope of eternal life.**
- (d) **B1** belief 1: some Christians believe good deeds cannot earn salvation, which is a free gift of God's grace, oe
- (d) **B1** development: based on Ephesians 2:8-9, which states that salvation is not by works, so that no one can boast, oe
- (d) **B1** belief 2: other Christians believe good deeds are a necessary part of a life of genuine faith and so play a role in salvation, oe
- (d) **B1** development: based on the teaching in James 2:14-26 that faith without deeds is dead, oe
- (d) **B1** reference to a source of wisdom and authority made accurately, oe
- (d) **Answer: Contrast: good deeds cannot earn salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9) vs good deeds are a necessary part of genuine faith (James 2:14-26).**

Question 6

- **Level 4** (10-12): A well-argued, balanced answer that considers more than one point of view in a developed way, using accurate and detailed references to Christian teaching and/or scripture to support each point, and reaches a clear, justified conclusion.
- **Level 3** (7-9): A clear and reasoned answer that considers more than one point of view, supported by relevant references to Christian teaching and/or scripture, though the justification of the conclusion may be less developed.
- **Level 2** (4-6): A reasoned answer that considers at least one point of view, with some relevant supporting evidence, but with limited or no consideration of an alternative view.
- **Level 1** (1-3): One or more relevant points are made, but with little or no supporting evidence and no reasoned conclusion.
- **Level 0** (0): No relevant content.
- **Indicative content:**
 - Agree: Ephesians 2:8-9 states that salvation is by grace, through faith, not by works, so that no one can boast, suggesting good deeds cannot earn a place in heaven.
 - Agree: if salvation could be earned through good deeds alone, this could contradict the Christian teaching that Jesus's death on the cross was necessary to save humanity from sin.
 - Agree: many Christians believe that, because of original sin, no person is capable of achieving perfect goodness through their own efforts, so deeds alone could never be sufficient.
 - Agree: Christian teaching describes grace as a free, undeserved gift from God; something earned through deeds would not be a gift.
 - Disagree: James 2:26 teaches that faith without deeds is dead, suggesting good deeds are a necessary part of genuine faith and therefore of salvation.
 - Disagree: the Roman Catholic Church teaches that Christians must cooperate with God's grace through good works, love and the sacraments, so salvation involves a human response as well as God's gift.
 - Disagree: in the parable of the sheep and the goats (Matthew 25:31-46), Jesus teaches that people will be judged partly according to how they treated others, suggesting deeds matter.
 - A balanced answer might conclude that most Christians agree good deeds alone do not earn salvation, but disagree about how essential good deeds are as an expression of genuine faith.

Question 7

- **B1** point 1: a Christian might try to live according to God's law/commandments out of gratitude for salvation, oe
- **B1** development: e.g. following the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20) or Jesus's teaching to love God and love one's neighbour, oe
- **B1** point 2: a Christian might take part in the sacraments, seen as a means of receiving God's grace, oe
- **B1** development: e.g. regularly attending Holy Communion/Eucharist to remain close to God and to express thanks for salvation, oe
- **Answer: E.g. living according to God's commandments out of gratitude; taking part in the sacraments (e.g. Eucharist) as a means of grace.**

Question 8

- **B1** the Bible, oe
- **B1** the teaching of the Church (e.g. through sermons, catechism or tradition), oe
- **B1** the life and example of Jesus Christ, oe
- **Answer: Any three: the Bible; Church teaching/tradition; the example of Jesus Christ.**