

**EXAMINATION SYLLABUS FOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
IN GHANA**

CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS STUDIES
(For Candidates in Ghana Only)

[May not be taken with Islamic Religious Studies]

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

At the end of the **three year** course of study, the candidate will be expected to:

1. have knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the religious, cultural, historical and social background of the biblical materials provided to be studied;
2. understand the nature of biblical moral lessons in the selected passages/themes from the Bible and the extent of their relevance and possible application to present day social, political, religious and cultural life and existence;
3. identify difficulties involved in the application of healthy attitudes, concepts and skills acquired from the Bible in ensuring peaceful co-existence and national development.

EXAMINATION SCHEME

There will be **two** papers - Paper 1 and 2 both of which must be taken.

Paper 1: Will be **60 minutes** multiple choice (objective) test paper consisting of **fifty** (50) questions drawn from the entire Christian Religious Studies syllabus. Candidates will be required to attempt all the questions for a total of **40 marks**.

Paper 2: Will be essay test paper consisting of **three sections** A, B and C. Four questions each will be set in Sections A and B and two questions in Section C. Candidates will be required to answer **four questions** in all choosing at least **one** question from each section and the **fourth** from **either Section A or B** for a total of 60 marks.

The sections on the question paper will cover the following portions of the of the syllabus:

Section C: Themes from the Acts of the Apostles, James and I Peter

The Revised Standard Version of the Bible will be used in the setting of questions.

DETAILED SYLLABUS

Section A: Themes from the Old testament

DETAILED SYLLABUS:

CONTENT	NOTES
Section A:	
1. The Creation and the fall of Human Kind	
(a) Creation	
(b) The garden of Eden and fall of human kind	Gen. 1:1-2:4a ; 2:4b-25 Gen. 3
(c) Cain and Abel	Gen. 4:1-16
(a) God's covenant with Abraham	Gen.12:1-9, 17:1-21, 21:1-8
(b) God's covenant with Israel	Exodus 1:8-22; 2:23-25; 19;20, 24:1-11; 32:1-24;
(c) The new covenant	Jeremiah 31:31-34, 32: 36-41. Ezekiel. 36:24-28
3. Leadership Roles	
(a) Joseph as a leader	Gen. 37:1-28, 41:1-57,
(b) Moses as a leader	Exodus 1; 2; 3; 4:1-17; 5, 14, 32:1-24 Numbers: 13:1- 33. 14: 1-24
(c) Joshua as a leader	Numbers. 27:15-23 Joshua.
(d) Deborah as a leader	Judges 4
(e) Gideon as a leader	Judges 6, 7, 8
4. Parental Responsibilities	
(a) Flaws in Eli and Samuel's	I Samuel 2:11-36; 3:2-18; 4:10-
5. Consequences of Saul's disobedience	
	1 Samuel. 13:5-15; 15: 1-34, 16: 14 -23; 31;
6. David: A man after God's own heart	
(a) David's submission to the will of God	1 Samuel.26, 2 Samuel. 12:15-25
(b) David's sin, repentance and forgiveness	2 Samuel. 11, 12:1-25
7. Making Decisions	
(a) Solomon's wisdom	1 Kings 3:3-28, 4:29-34, 5:1-12, 8:1-53 10:1-13
(b) Unwise policies of	1 Kings. 9:15-23, 11:1-13,

Solomon and Rehoboam 12:1-20

8. Supremacy of God

- (a) Religious tensions during 1 Kings.16:29-34; 17:1-7;
- (b) Elijah at mount Carmel 1 Kings 18:17- 46
- Ahab and Gehazi's greed 1 Kings 21; 2 Kings 5

10. The Apostate and the Reformer

- The reign of King Manasseh 2 Kings 21:1-18
- (The Apostate)
- (b) The Reign of King Josiah 2 King 22; 23: 1-30

11. Faith in God

- (a) Faith and Courage Daniel 3
- (b) Faith and power Daniel 6
- (a) God's Universalism Jonah 1,2,3,4
- (b) Social injustice and true religion Amos 2:6-8, 4, 5: 1-24, 7:10-17, 8
- (c) God's divine love Hosea 1, 2, 3, 6
- (d) Gods holiness/divine call Isaiah 1:10-20, 6: 1-8
- (e) The call of Jeremiah Jeremiah 1
- (f) The call of Ezekiel Ezekiel 1,2,3

Hope for the future

- (a) Individual responsibility Ezekiel 18
- (b) Hope for the future Ezekiel 37

14. Concern for one's Nation

- (a) The condition of the nation 2 Kings 24; 25:1-17
- (b) Response to the state of the nation Nehemiah 1;2:9-20;4
- (c) Jeremiah's letter to the exiles Ezra 1; 4; 5:1-2; 6:13 -22;7:1-10
- Jeremiah 29

SECTION B

Themes from the Synoptic Gospels

15. Religious Institutions and Sects at the time of Jesus

- (a) The Synagogue
- (b) The Temple
- (c) The Sanhedrin
- (d) The Religious sects
 - (i) The Pharisees
 - (ii) The Sadducees
- (e) Other Religious Sects
 - (i) The Scribes
 - (ii) The Herodians
 - (iii) The Zealots

16. Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels

- (a) Characteristics of the Synoptic Gospels
- (b) The Synoptic Problem

17. Birth Narratives: Birth of John and Jesus and the Preparation of Jesus' ministry

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|--------------------------|--|
| (a) The genealogy | Matt: 1:1-17; Lk 3:23- 38
Lk 3:1-20 |
| (d) The baptism of Jesus | Matt: 3:13-17, Mk 1:9-11; Lk3:21-23 |

18. The temptation of Jesus

Matt: 4:1-11, Mk 1:12-13,

Lk 4:1-13

19. Galilean Ministry

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| (a) The call and Demands of Discipleship | Matt: 4:18-25; 8:18-22; 9:9-13,

Mk:1:16-20; 2:13-17, Lk 5:1-11,27-32, 9:57-63; 14:25-33 |
| (b) The teachings of Jesus | |
| (i) The Beatitudes and Woes | Matt: 5:1-12; Lk 6:17-26 |
| (ii) The Usefulness of Salt and Light | Matt: 5:13-16, Lk11:33-36;
14:34-35 |
| (iii) Jesus and the Mosaic Law | Matt: 5:17-48; Lk 6:27-36,
Lk 12:57-59 |
| (iv) Alms Giving and Fasting | Matt: 6:1-4, Lk 11:41; 12:33
Matt 6: 16 -18 |
| (v) Prayer | Matt: 6:5-15; 5:44; 17: 20, |

	Mk 1:35;6:41-46, Lk: 3:21, 6:12, 9:18,28-29; 11:1-13; 22:31-34; 18:1-14
(c) Other Teachings of Jesus	
(i) Forgiveness	Matt: 5:38-48, 18:21-35, Mk 2:1-12, 3:28-29; Lk: 6:27-36, 7:36-50; 11:4, 18:4-14.
(ii) Humility	Matt: 18:1-4, 23:12, Mk 9:33-37, 10:13-18; Lk 9:46, 14: 7-11, 18: 9-14, 22: 24 -27
(iii) Wealth and Poverty	Matt: 5:3; 6:19-21; 19:16-30, Mk 10:17-30; 12:43-44, Lk 6:20; 12:13-21; 33-34; 16:19-31; 8:18-30; 19:8-9; 21:1- 5
(iv) Marriage and Divorce	Matt: 5:31-32; 19:3-12; 22:23-33 Mk. 10:2-12; 12:25; Lk 20: 27-40
(v) The Church and State	Matt: 17:24-27; 22:15-22 Mk. 12:13-17; Lk 20:20-26
20. Miracles of Jesus	
(a) Nature Miracles	
(i) Stilling of the Storm	Matt: 8: 23-27; Mk 4:35-41; Lk 8:22-25
(ii) Feeding of the Five Thousand	Matt 14:15-21, Mk 6:30-44, Lk 9:10-17
(b) Healing Miracles	
(i) The Leper	Matt: 8: 1 - 4 , Mk 1:40-45, Lk 5:12-16
(ii) The Centurion's Servant	Matt 8: 5-13, Lk 7:1-10
(iii) The Paralytic	Matt 9:1-8, Mk 2:1-12; Lk 5:17-26
(c) Exorcism and Power over Death	
(i) The Gerasene Demoniac	Matt 8: 28-34, Mk 5:1-20 Lk 8:26-39
(ii) The Syro-Phoenician Woman's Daughter	Matt. 15:21 - 28, Mk. 7: 24- 30
(iii) Jairus Daughter	Matt. 9: 18-26, Mk. 5:21-43, Lk. 8: 40-56

21. The Parables of Jesus

(a) Parables of the Kingdom

(i) The Sower

Matt: 13:1-23, Mk 4:1-20,
Lk 8:4-15

(ii) The Mustard Seed

Matt: 13:31-32, Mk 4:30-32,
Lk 13:18-19

(iii) The wicked Tenant

Matt: 21:33-46, Mk 12:1-12,
Lk 20: 9-19

(iv) Pounds and Talents

Lk 19:11-27, Matt 25:14-30

(b) Parables Illustrating God's love

(i) The Parables of the Lost E.g. .Prodigal Son, Lost Sheep Lost Coin etc.

Matt 18: 12-14, Lk 15

22. The Great Confession and the Transfiguration

(a) The Great Confession

Matt 16:13-20, MK 8:27-38
Lk 9: 18-27

(b) The Transfiguration

Matt 17: 1-13, MK 9:2-13
Lk. 9:28-36.

23. Jesus in Jerusalem.

Conflict with Jewish
Authorities over:

(a) Sabbath

Matt: 12:1-14, Mk 2:23-28,
3:1--6, Lk 6:1-11

(b) Mixing with Sinners

Matt: 9: 9-13, Lk. 5:27-32,
7:36-50, Mk. 2:13-22

(c) Fasting

Matt. 9: 14-17, Mk. 2: 18 -20
Lk. 5:33-39

(d) Authority to forgive sins

Mat: 9:1- 9, Mk. 2:1-12,
Lk 5: 17-26, Lk. 7: 36-50

(e) Tradition of the Elders

Matt: 15: 1-11, Mk. 7: 1-15,
Lk. 11:37-41

24. The Passion Stories

(a) The Conspiracy of the Priest and the Elders.

Matt: 26:1-5, Mk. 14:1-2,
Lk. 22:1-2

(b) The Anointing at Bethany

Matt: 26: 6-13, Mk. 14: 3-9

(c) The Last Supper

Matt: 26:17-35, Mk. 14:12-31,
Lk. 22:7-3

(d) Jesus at Gethsemane	Matt: 26:36-56, Mk. 14:32-52, Lk. 22: 39-53
(e) Peter's Denials	Matt: 26:69-75, Mk. 14:66-72, Lk. 22:54-62
(f) The trial of Jesus	Matt: 26:47-75, Mk. 14:53-72, Lk. 22:66-71,23: 1-12
(g) The Crucifixion and death of Jesus	Matt: 27: 32-56, Mk. 15: 21 -41, Lk. 23: 26-49
(h) The burial of Jesus	Matt. 27: 57-66, Mk. 15: 42-47, Lk. 23:50-56
(i) The Resurrection Appearances	Matt: 28:1-20, Mk. 16:1-20, Lk. 24: 1-53
(j) The Great Commission	Matt: 28:19-20, Lk. 24:47, Mk. 16: 15-20

SECTION C

25. The History of the Early Church

(a) Introduction to the Acts of the Apostles	Acts 1:1-5
(b) (i) The Ascension (ii) The replacement of Judas	Acts 1:6-11 Acts 1:12-26
(c) The day of Pentecost	Acts 2:1-47
(c) The day of Pentecost	Acts 2:1-47
(d) The first Miracle of the Church	Acts 3:1-26
(e) Opposition to the Church	Acts 4:1-31
(f) The Church and Communal life	Acts 4:32-37; 5:1-16
(g) The arrest of the Apostles	Acts 5:17-42

26. The Appointment of the Seven, Persecution and Dispersion of the church after Stephen's Death.

(a) The appointment of the Seven Deacons	Acts 6:1-6
(b) Stephen, the first Christian Martyr	Acts 6:7-15; 7
(c) Persecution and dispersion of the Church	Acts 8:1-25

(d) Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch	Acts 8:26-40
27. Witnessing Further Afield	
(a) The conversion of Saul	Acts 9:1-31
(b) Peter at Lydda and Joppa	Acts 9:32-43
(c) Conversion of Cornelius	Acts 10:1-48; 11:1-18
(d) The Church in Antioch	Acts 11:19-30
(e) Martyrdom of James and the arrest of Peter	Acts 12:1-24
28. The first Missionary Journey and the Council of Jerusalem	
(a) Paul's first Missionary Journey	Acts 13, 14
(b) The Council of Jerusalem and the Question of Circumcision	Acts 15:1-35
29. The Epistle of James	
(a) Faith and Works	James 1:2-27; 2:14-26
(b) Impartiality	James 2:1-13
(c) Effective Prayers	James 1:2-8; 5:13-18
30. The Epistle of 1 Peter	
(a) Good Citizenship	1 Peter 2:13-17
(b) Christians Living among non- Christians	1 Peter 2 : 1 - 25
(c) Interpersonal Relationship among Christians	1 Peter 5 : 1 - 11

