



*Rewarding Learning*  
ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)  
General Certificate of Education  
2009

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## Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 4

*assessing*

Module 4:  
The Early Christian Church

[ASR41]

FRIDAY 23 JANUARY, AFTERNOON

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### TIME

1 hour 20 minutes.

### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.  
Answer **two** questions.

### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 90.  
Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.  
Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

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- 1 (a) With reference to the writings of the period, summarise your knowledge and understanding of the origins and practice of the Eucharist in the Early Church. [30]
- (b) Comment on the claim that the early Christians regarded the Eucharist as the most important part of their faith. Justify your answer. [15]
- 2 (a) Outline your knowledge and understanding of Pliny's letter to Trajan and Trajan's reply. [30]
- (b) Explore the view that persecution in the first two centuries was local and random. Justify your answer. [15]
- 3 (a) Outline your knowledge and understanding of the writings of the Apostolic Fathers, with particular reference to Ignatius of Antioch. [30]
- (b) Comment on the claim that writings such as these give valuable insight into the life of the Early Church. Justify your answer. [15]
- 4 (a) Summarise your knowledge and understanding of the main reasons why Christianity spread so rapidly in the first two centuries. [30]
- (b) Explore the view that the Early Christians could have done more to involve themselves in Roman society. Justify your answer. [15]

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**THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER**

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