

Development in Christian Thought

Developments in religious thought

Learners will study:

- religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world
- sources of religious wisdom and authority
- practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition
- significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought
- key themes related to the relationship between religion and society

in the context of one religion chosen from Christianity (03), Islam (04), Judaism (05), Buddhism (06) or Hinduism (07).

Developments in religious thought

(03–07)

120 marks

2 hour written paper

33.3%
of total
A Level

Questions for consideration:

- Are humans born into original sin?
- Do humans have an innate sense of the divine?
- Is Jesus really the Son of God?
- Is it Christian to follow every rule in the Bible?
- Can faith be enough of a justification for the existence of God?

DCT gives us an insight into how things have changed in the Churches history and how they might be likely to change in the future. Christianity has always been full of debate since its very beginning. These debates often focus around the fundamental principles of Christianity including the nature of God, the nature of humans, the concept of life after death and many more. These differences in the fundamental beliefs are important as the rest of the religious teaching depends on how we answer these questions. For example, if human beings are not free to make their own choices then how can they be held accountable for their actions at the final judgement? Similarly, what need is there to behave like Christ if we can reject the idea of after life? Essentially, we are looking at how these different beliefs impact the way in which Christianity is lived out in the world.

To be successful...

AS LEVEL RELIGIOUS STUDIES:
Developments in Christian Thought

Title: Jesus Christ

Learning intention: To understand what it means to claim that Jesus is the Son of God.

SOLO level	One	Many	Relate	Extend
Success criteria	Identify what we know about Jesus already.	Describe how scripture supports the claim that Jesus is the Son of God	Explain how some use other sources to suggest that Jesus was not the Son of God.	Evaluate the claim that Jesus truly was the Son of God



What do we already know about Jesus?



Tips: Think specifically about SOURCES that inform us about Jesus: What do these say and why might they give him authority?

RECAP from GCSE: True or False?

If you think a statement is false, try and adapt it into a true sentence

1. The belief that Jesus is God in human form is called reincarnation?
2. The Doctrine of the Trinity is used by Christians to support belief in polytheism.
3. All aspects of the Trinity are equal.
4. Christ was present from the very beginning of creation.
5. Jesus is half human and half God.
6. Jesus changed Old Testament teachings.
7. Jesus believed in revenge over forgiveness.
8. According to Jews, Christ is the Messiah.
9. Jesus resurrected three days after his death.
10. The Holy Spirit was sent down to impregnate Mary.



The Identity of Jesus: Key Sources

Look up the selected scripture verses and record what they say about Jesus.

Source	What words are used to refer to Jesus?
Matthew 1:18	
Mark 1:1-11	
John 1: 1-14	
Matthew 17:1-9	
Mark 6:47-52	
Romans 10:9	
John 20:28	

You may notice that Jesus is not the one who refers to himself in the terms that are used above. Why do you think people refer to him in this way when he does not himself?

How does Jesus describe himself?

Look up the selected scripture verses and record what Jesus says about himself.

Source	How does Jesus refer to himself?
John 6: 35-48	
John 8:12	
John 10:7	
John 10: 11-14	
John 11:25	
John 14:6	
John 15:1-5	

Why does Jesus speak about himself in these metaphors? Is he aware that he is the Son of God? Could it be argued that he doesn't believe he is the Son of God? Are there any sources that could support or reject this idea? (HINT: Think Old Testament)

HUMAN ATTRIBUTES

Confused/needing answers

DIVINE ATTRIBUTES

Performing miracles

Using the scripture in this box, give examples of how Jesus shows his humanity and divinity. Example is done in **BLUE**.

Luke 8:43–48

Matthew 26:36-46

Mark 15:34

Mark 8:27-34

John 14:6

Mark 10: 35-45

Mark 16:1-20

Tasks:

1. Complete the handout 'Jesus – Human AND Divine'
2. Read through pages 313-319 of the chapter attached on Jesus Christ.
3. After reading, please make sure you have definitions recorded for the following words: Christology, Incarnation, Theotokos, Docetic and Exegesis.
4. Write the question; 'Did Jesus think he was the Son of God?' and spend some time planning PACE responses for both sides of the argument. Create two PACE paragraphs for each point of view and consider your conclusion.
5. Set yourself 50 minutes- using nothing but your plan please write your essay and email it to Mrs O'Riley.