

# CHRISTIAN BELIEFS PT1

Topic	Key Terms	SOWAA	Range	Exam practice questions
<b>Nature of God</b>	<b>Omnipotent</b> – all powerful <b>Omniscient</b> – all knowing <b>Benevolent</b> – all loving <b>Eternal</b> – having no beginning and no end <b>Transcendent</b> – exists outside the world <b>Immanent</b> – acting inside the world	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>'Father almighty...maker of heaven and earth'</i></li> <li>- <i>'I am the alpha and the omega'</i></li> <li>- <i>'You shall have no other God's before me'</i></li> <li>- <i>Parable of the lost son/prodigal son</i></li> <li>- <i>'God is greater than our hearts and he knows everything'</i></li> <li>- <i>'For God so loved the world he gave his one and only Son'</i></li> <li>- <i>'God is above and beyond creation'</i></li> <li>- <i>Parable of the Sheep and Goats</i></li> </ul>	<p>Jehovah's Witnesses – emphasise God's power as supreme ruler and creator</p> <p>Pentecostal – Emphasise God's power and immanence through miracles and healing</p> <p>Quakers – Emphasise God's love and immanence. They wait for the HS to inspire them in worship.</p>	<p>State/give three aspects of God's nature (3 marks)</p> <p>Describe what Christians mean by God being omnipotent (6 marks)</p> <p>'The best way to describe God is benevolent' (15 marks)</p>
<b>The Holy Trinity</b>	<b>Polytheism</b> – Belief in more than one God <b>Holy Trinity</b> – The belief that there is one God in three forms <b>Father</b> – Creator of the universe <b>Son</b> – Saviour of humanity <b>Holy Spirit</b> – the giver of life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>'Go make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the father, son and holy spirit'</i></li> <li> </li> <li><i>'Father almighty...maker of heaven and earth'</i></li> <li><i>'Holy Spirit...giver of life'</i></li> <li><i>'Jesus Christ, the only Son of God'</i></li> <li><i>(NICENE CREED ^)</i></li> <li> </li> <li>- <i>'Baptise them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit' (Jesus said in Matthew)</i></li> <li>- <i>Jesus' Baptism (Matthew)</i></li> </ul>	<p>Unitarians e.g. Jehovah's Witnesses reject the Trinity. Jesus is a messenger not God himself.</p> <p>Trinitarians accept the doctrine of the Trinity</p>	<p>Outline the belief in the Trinity (3 marks)</p> <p>Explain the importance of the Trinity to Christians (6 marks)</p> <p>'It is important for Christians to believe in the Trinity' (15 marks)</p>
<b>Creation</b>	<b>Stewardship</b> – belief that we have been given the responsibility to care for God's creation <b>Dominion</b> – belief that we have been given control over God's creation <b>Literalist</b> - belief that the Bible is infallible and accurate <b>Metaphorical</b> – the Bible's words shouldn't be taken literally e.g. 6 days could mean 6 periods of time <b>Symbolic</b> – The Bible represents ideas e.g. creation of the world is a symbol for God's power <b>Word</b> – Name used for Jesus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>'God formed man from the dust in the ground'</i></li> <li>- <i>'In the beginning was the Word'</i></li> <li>- <i>'It is not good for man to be alone, I will make a helper suitable for him'</i></li> <li>- <i>'Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky'</i></li> <li>- <i>'God put Adam in the garden of Eden to tend and care for it'</i></li> </ul>	<p>Literalist Christians e.g. Evangelical Christians take the Bible as the exact word of God</p> <p>Conservative Christians e.g. Catholics accept scientific accounts of creation. Pope has announced Big Bang and Evolution compatible with religion (Theistic Evolution)</p>	<p>Outline what is meant by the term stewardship (3 marks)</p> <p>Explain the importance of the creation story to Christians (6 marks)</p> <p>'The story of creation in Genesis is literally true' (15 marks)</p>
<b>The Fall and Original Sin</b>	<b>The Fall</b> – Refers to Adam and Eve's rebellion in the Garden of Eden <b>Original Sin</b> – humans have inherited a tainted nature from Adam and Eve <b>Free will</b> – The belief that we can choose our actions <b>Salvation</b> – the belief that Jesus saved us from sin <b>Atonement</b> – to reconcile or rebuild a relationship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>'Cursed is the ground because of you'</i></li> <li>- <i>'Do not eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil'</i></li> <li>- <i>'God saw all that he made and said it was good'</i></li> <li>- <i>'Sin entered the world through one man' (St Paul)</i></li> <li>- <i>Jesus tempted in the desert</i></li> </ul>	<p>RCC – Baptism necessary to overcome original sin.</p> <p>Augustine – The Fall led to evil and suffering entering the world.</p>	<p>'Describe what is meant by the fall' (3 marks)</p> <p>Explain what Christians believe about the fall and sin (6 marks)</p> <p>'Christians should take the account of the fall as literally true' (15 marks)</p>
<b>Problem of Evil</b>	<b>Moral evil</b> – suffering caused by humans <b>Natural evil</b> – suffering not caused by humans <b>Soul making</b> – Iraneus/Hicks theodicy that evil exists so we can develop more into the likeness of God <b>Soul deciding</b> – Augustine's theodicy that when A and E betrayed God in the Garden of Eden it allowed evil to enter the world. <b>Inconsistent triad</b> – the belief that God cannot be all powerful and all loving and evil exist (Mackie)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>'Cursed is the ground because of you'</i></li> <li>- <i>'God made mankind in his image. In his likeness'</i></li> <li>- <i>Story of Job</i></li> <li>- <i>Holocaust</i></li> <li>- <i>Boxing Day Tsunami</i></li> <li>- <i>Dawkins – Digger Wasp</i></li> </ul>	<p>Atheists/ humanists reject the existence of a benevolent God</p> <p>Known as the 'rock of atheism'</p>	<p>'Describe what is meant by moral evil' (3 marks)</p> <p>Outline what is meant by the problem of evil (6 marks)</p> <p>'There is no solution to the problem of evil' (15 marks)</p>