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TH 602
5-3-1 Assign 1
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5 Questions

1. *According to Bird, what are important areas of focus when discussing Christology?*

Bird states that a gospel-driven Christology entails a bifocal approach on a study of both salvation and the Savior.

2. *What are Bird's thoughts regarding Jesus and theology?*

Bird emphasizes the centrality of Jesus in regards to the subsections of theology, and is evident when discussing the economic relationship between the Father and Son along with the Son-Holy Spirit.

3. *What is Bird's conclusion about Christology after analyzing the historical methods of above and below?*

Bird concludes that true Christology is not anchored primarily in the history of Jesus, but in the church's continuing witness to who Jesus is, was and will yet be.

4. *How does Bird view the presence of Christ in the Old Testament?*

Bird believes that the primary contribution of the Old Testament to Christology is to intimate the nature of His threefold offices as prophet, priest and king.

5. *What is an important step in an effective study of Christology?*

According to Bird, it is important to clarify the identity of Jesus of Nazareth, hence HIS entire life.

3 Definitions

1. Typology- a hermeneutical approach that sees in persons, events or places the prototype, pattern, or figure of historical persons, events or places that follow it in time
2. Christophany- appearances of the preincarnate Jesus
3. Allegory- a legitimate interpretation with apostolic precedent and a long history of usage in the early church

Summary

In Sections 4.1-4.3.4, Michael Bird focuses on the Gospel of Jesus Christ, primarily alluding to connection between His identity and works of salvation. Bird then focuses on the quest for historical Jesus, where he analyzes both methods of Christology from above and from below. Furthermore, we learn of the Christological importance as it relates to the life of Jesus both in the Old and New Testaments. Lastly, we learn of the connection between the life of Jesus as it relates to the hope of Israel.