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Th 602
5-3-1 Assignment 2
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5 Questions

1. ***What is Bird's view on the significance of the cross?***
Bird states that the cross is an ancient theological phenomenon and is the center of neo orthodox and evangelical focus, where it is seen as a redemptive action that draws together the offender and the offended party in reconciliation.
2. ***How does Bird tie recapitulation to Jesus Christ?***
Bird explains that Jesus' own biography recapitulates similar events in Israel's exodus story and that where Adam and Israel disobeyed, Jesus was obedient and faithful.
3. ***What is Bird's explanation of the "ransom" view?***
The biblical roots of the ransom view lie in the references to Jesus' death and blood possessing redemptive significance, where Jesus' death is reckoned to be ransom from the devil.
4. ***How does Bird argue against the concept of recapitulation view?***
Bird states that while it shows how the cross fits into the dramatic story of Adam, Israel and Christ, it fails to show the necessity of the cross in that story.
5. ***What are one of the problems with the ransom view?***
Bird believes that the first issue is addressing the concept of the devil owning humanity where there is nothing in the Scripture that indicates that humanity was ever an official possession of the devil.

3 Definitions

1. Cruciformity- being conformed the pattern of the cross, which is deemed as the crux of the gospel and is the impact of discipleship and following Jesus
2. Recapitulation- God's purpose in summing up all things in Christ
3. Protoevangelium- the reference to Jesus' triumph over Satan by His death

Summary

In sections 4.4 to 4.4.2 of *Evangelical Theology*, Michael Bird begins by emphasizing the centrality and essence of the cross as it pertains to the gospel. Bird then dives into recapitulation and ransom, and analyzes these concepts in regards to their alignment with Jesus Christ. Bird continues to analyze other concepts that are believed to be tied to the gospel, such as divine child abuse. Bird ends by emphasizing the importance of recognizing the Lordship of the crucified Nazarene, whose strange victory "hangs the final sentence against evil, the vanquishing of injustice, and the redemption of sinners."