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Class: TH601 NA/NOS Systematic Theology II: Christ and the Church

QUESTIONS

1. State and briefly explain three main views of the scope or extent of the atonement.
2. Where was Jesus between his death and resurrection?
3. State four meanings/significance of the resurrection stated by Bird.
4. State one way in which the anastasity of the Christian life is evident.
5. Give one reason the resurrection is considered the objective grounds of salvation.

ANSWERS

1. Three main views of the scope or extent of the atonement are:
    a) Limited atonement view – Jesus died for the elect (Reformed).
    b) Universal atonement view – Jesus died for the entire world (Arminian)
    c) Hypothetical universal atonement – Jesus died conditionally for the world and unconditionally for the elect (Amyraldian).

2. Contrary to what some believe, Jesus did not descend to hell. Instead, between His death and resurrection, he was in Hades/Sheol—a waiting place of the dead.

3. Four meanings/significance of the resurrection stated by Bird are:
    a) The resurrection reveals Jesus' identity and marks the beginning of the future age.
    b) The resurrection constitutes the inauguration of the new creation.
    c) The resurrection is the objective grounds of salvation.
    d) The resurrection is an inspiration for kingdom ministry.

4. One way the anastasity of the Christian life is evident is that it imparts hope to Christians. The cornerstone of Christian hope is the future resurrection of believers. They look forward to the final victory over death and evil.

5. One reason the resurrection is considered the objective grounds of salvation is that the new birth and new life that belong to God's people are apprehended only in the Messiah's resurrection.

TERMS

Gehenna: is the place of everlasting punishment and eternal separation from God.

Neologism Anastasity: experiencing the power of Christ's resurrection flowing into our lives.

Cruciformity: conformed to the pattern of the cross, dying to self in service to God.

SUMMARY

In this section, Bird examines some views on the scope/extent of the atonement and concludes that the death of Jesus is efficient and purposed for the salvation of the elect but remains sufficient and creates the possibility for the salvation of everyone. Bird also writes about the cross and the resurrection, stating that they form an indissoluble unity and together constitute the fulcrum on which God's intention to recapture the world for Himself is launched and enacted. Finally, he concluded with the significance/meaning of Christ's resurrection. He notes the church exists only upon the premise and in the power of resurrection.