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### **Questions**

1. According to Bird, what is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit proof of?
2. Why is ascension an important transition for the various aspects of the work of Christ?
3. What were the two key christological ideas the early church came to unity on?
4. What was Athanasius' syllogism attack on Arius?
5. What is the hypostatic union?

### **Answers**

1. *1) The 'last days' have arrived with the sending of the Holy Spirit in a qualitatively new way, 2) the time for salvation has come and 3) Jesus in his earthly life was the anointed Spirit-bearer, and in his exalted state Jesus is the Spirit-giver.*
2. *The ascension marks the end of the resurrection appearances and the beginning of Jesus' session as the Father's vice-regent.*
3. *1) The identification of Jesus of Nazareth as the risen and exalted Lord Jesus Christ and 2) the identification of Jesus with the God of Israel.*
4. *1) No creature can redeem another creature, 2) According to Arius, Jesus is a creature, 3) Therefore, according to Arius, Jesus cannot redeem humanity*
5. *The personal union of Jesus' two natures in a single person. The two natures are distinct, yet they concur or coinhere in his person. The joining of the divine and the human in the one person of Jesus without their confusion.*

### **Terms**

**Ontology** - dealing with the nature of being, showing the properties and relations between them

**Perjorative**- expressing contempt or disapproval

**Kerygmatic** - from the Greek, used in the NT for 'proclamation', related to the meaning 'to cry or to proclaim as a herald' and 'to proclaim, announce, preach'.

### **Summary**

In 4.6, Bird focuses on the Ascension of Jesus and its implications for believers as well as Jesus' continuing session role, sitting at the right hand of the Father. In section 4.7, Bird covers the deep questions of 'how is Jesus divine or in what precise sense is Jesus divine?' He highlights the necessity of Jesus being preexistent and the importance of his incarnation, remaining fully God and fully human (the hypostatic union).