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Questions

1. How does Bird define theosis?
2. What is universalism?
3. What was Origen's doctrine of *apokatastasis*?
4. How can we speak legitimately of the two wills of God?
5. What is the rationale for the perseverance of the saints?

Answers

1. *The identification of salvation as becoming like God and sharing in the divine nature.*
2. *The view that all human beings will be saved in the end.*
3. *The restoration of all things back to their original state after judgment.*
4. *If they are understood as 1) his will as his desire to provide salvation sufficient for all deriving from his merciful character and 2) his will as purpose to execute salvation for the elect, deriving from his glory.*
5. *That it depends not upon their own free will, but upon the immutability of the decree of election, flowing from the free and unchangeable love of God the Father, upon the efficacy of the merit and intercession of Jesus Christ, the abiding of the Spirit and of the seed of God within them, and the nature of the covenant of grace from all which arises also the certainty and infallibility thereof.*

Terms

Interpenetrate - to mix or to merge together

Paucity - the presence of something only in small or insufficient quantities or amounts; scarcity

Accretion - the process of growth or increase, typically by the gradual accumulation of additional layers or matter

Summary

In these sections, Bird finishes up the images/aspects of salvation by covering eternal life, theosis and nearness and access. While Bird had cited the Christus Victor model for understanding atonement, he doesn't land on a single image to convey salvation, other than to rest in "the gospel announcement of a God who saves." His next sections go into the scope and security of salvation, including arguments against universalism as well as for the calvanistic perseverance of the saints.