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TH 602
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5-3-1 Assignment: Bird 6.1-6.3.5.2

QUESTIONS

1. What is Bird's argument regarding Holy Spirit being a personal being?
2. What is Bird's argument regarding Holy Spirit as God?
3. According to Bird, what is/are the work(s) of the spirit?
4. What are the seven theories behind how biblical authors were "inspired" to write Scripture?
5. What does Bird support most of the seven theories and why?

Answers

1. Bird argues that there are various indications of Holy Spirit's personhood. This includes how he's portrayed as an active person through his leading, help in prayer, how he is tempted, source of encouragement, and is a personal agent based on the translation of *parakletos*.
2. Bird displays how the Holy Spirit possesses the qualities/attributes of God and how the NT contains references to the Holy Sp[irit as implicit to God. He also argues that for the Spirit to mediate the presence of Christ and Father, he must participate in nature and identity of God.
3. It is a significant feature of Trinitarian theology because it displays how the Holy Spirit is the workhorse of the Trinity. His works are displayed in various moments and ways, including in creation, through its relationship with the Israelites, and in the church. He also plays a prominent role in baptism and in "inscripturation."
4. They are ecstatic trance, intuition theory, incarnation theory, dictation theory, verbal theory, community theory, and dynamic theory.
5. Amongst the seven theories, Bird supports the dynamic theory for three reasons. First, it involves a type of supernatural synapse between God's purpose and their expression in the minds of each author. Secondly, it primarily says inspiration takes place at a conceptual level. Lastly, it also tells that these human words can be identified with God's Word.

Definition

- Intuition theory: A theory of biblical inspiration that argues inspiration functions like a gift akin to artistic ability.
- Verbal Theory: A theory of biblical inspiration that argues that the HS's influence extends to the very words and phrases & that inspiration is verbal.
- Veracity: Term used by Bird to describe the truthfulness of the Christian Bible. He argues that it is more "biblical" and explains it is based on "divine fidelity" and the Spirit's testimony.

In Chapters 6.1-6.3.5.2, Bird elucidates on the Holy Spirit's "person" and work. Using exegetical evidence through scriptural description and images, He displays how the Holy Spirit is a personal being that possesses full deity and belongs in a coordinate series with the Father and Son. Furthermore, He exhibits the various works of the Spirit in creation, connecting God and the

Israelites, the church, baptism, and “inscripturating.” By doing so, Bird demonstrates how He is a significant part of Trinitarian theology, for He is indeed the workhouse of the Trinity.