

### 5-3-1 Assignment on Bird 6.1 to 6.3.5.2

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#### QUESTIONS

1. What are the reasons for the importance of the doctrine of the Holy Spirit?
2. What is the concept of person that the author applies to the Holy Spirit?
3. What reasons exist for maintaining the Filioque clause in the Nicene creed?
4. According to Bird, what are the categories for dividing the work of the Spirit in the Church?
5. What theories have emerged about the Bible as the Word of God and human words?

Answers:

1. The doctrine of the Holy Spirit intersects with many doctrines (such as the Trinity, soteriology, or ecclesiology) and speaks about a person of the Divinity. Furthermore, the Spirit works in the people of God and is the primary agent that empowers the church. Its responsible incorporation will result in more egalitarian, trinitarian, and experiential theology.
2. The concept of person is complex. He states that a person is a living being, self-aware, and capable of cognition. He can relate to other beings and possesses recognizable character traits. A person is someone who can distinguish "I" (God, the great "I AM"), and Jesus is also a person who speaks in the first person. The Holy Spirit also speaks with an "I" in Acts 13:2.
3. If the Spirit of God proceeds directly from the Father without the Son, there may be a theological argument that this same Spirit can relate the faithful of other religions to the Father without the need for the mediation of the Son. Also, there is good biblical evidence that the Spirit is Christologically gifted to the Church since the Gospels seem to insist on the Spirit's relationship to the Son.
4. The work of the Spirit in the Church can be divided into the categories of vivifying (Spirit of life), enabling (gives power and gifts), sanctifying (purifies, cleanses, and prunes God's people), revealing (illuminates God's revelation) and unifying (all in Christ).
5. There are different theories. Ecstatic trance theory postulates that the Holy Spirit displaced the human mind momentarily. Also, the intuition theory postulates that some people have an intuitive awareness to contemplate eternal truths. The incarnation theory uses Christ as an analogy of the biblical composition being simultaneously divine and human. The dictation theory postulates that God dictated to the authors exactly what they wrote. Other theories are verbal, communal, and dynamic. Bird points out that these theories do not fully embrace inspiration and the scriptural process guided by the Holy Spirit.

#### TERMS

*Ex Patre Filioque*: The Roman Church demanded the Goths to include this phrase in the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed. It affirms that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son.

*Glossolalia*: This term refers to a Spirit manifestation by which the believers speak in unknown languages. For some churches, it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Spirit.

*Homoousios-consubstantial*: This church belief postulated that the Son shared the same substance with the Father, and the Spirit also shared the same substance with the Father and the Son.

#### SUMMARY

Bird speaks extensively about the Holy Spirit and its doctrinal, trinitarian, and identity importance and its role in the inspiration of the Bible. He mentions that the Holy Spirit is the divine life and word given so humankind can worship God. In addition, the Spirit authenticates the message of Jesus, produces faith, and grants the work of Christ for the benefit of believers.

He points out the importance of the baptism of the Spirit (unique), its manifestations through the filling of the Spirit (repeatable), and its testimony of the Scripture to our spirit.