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Th 602
Assign 9
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5 Questions

1. ***How does Bird describe the evangelical church?***

Bird states that the evangelical church is a community created by the gospel, that cultivates the gospel in its spirituality.

2. ***What is the basis of evangelicalism?***

Bird explains that evangelicalism is based on a mutual recognition that the gospel embodies a reality, an evangelical reality that binds us together in life and service to the Triune God.

3. ***What is an important characteristic of evangelical theology?***

According to Bird, evangelical theology draws on the strengths of the various traditions of the church in order to enrich, strengthen, reform, and unify the ecclesiologies of our own respective denominations.

4. ***What is one of the potential issues with evangelism?***

One problem of evangelism is a radical Platonic dualism, where evangelicals have a tendency to seek spiritual unity rather than physical unity

5. ***Why does Bird describe the church as the company of the gospel?***

Bird explains that the church is like a company of actors who are cast to perform the redemptive drama of the gospel

3 Definitions

1. **Ekklesia**- a Greek word meaning “gathering” or “assembly”
2. **Sonderweg**- term meaning “special way”
3. **Coram Deo**- a term meaning “a people addressed by God.”

Summary

In sections 8.1 to 8.2.2 of *Evangelical Theology*, Bird begins by discussing the evangelical church and its characteristics. Bird intriguingly discusses the problems of evangelism as well, with examples of Platonic dualism and anti-Catholicism. Bird then transitions into biblical images of the church, where we see shared images between the testaments. He provides various terms to describe the church from the Old Testament to the New Testament.