

5-3-1 Assignment: Bird, 8.1-8.2.2
Due: March 29, 2023

QUESTIONS

1. How does Bird define the Evangelical Church?
2. What are the 3 characteristics of a “gospelized community”?
3. What are 5 images of the church that Bird says span both Testaments?
4. What images of the church are unique to the New Testament?
5. What is meant by the statement, “the church must be Israel, because outside Israel there is no salvation”?

ANSWERS

1. The evangelical churches are those that have the gospel at the center of their proclamation and practice. They are a community created by the gospel, that promotes and preaches the gospel, and cultivates the gospel in its spirituality.
2. According to Bird, the 3 characteristics of a “gospelized community” are: the company of the gospel, the public face of the gospel, and the hermeneutic of the gospel.
3. The 5 images of the church that span both the Testaments that Bird lists are: the people of God, Elect, Flock, Priesthood, and Remnant.
4. The images of the church that are unique to the New Testament are: Body of Christ, Temple of God, and New Creation.
5. Salvation first came to Israel that Israel may be the light for the Gentiles and the church is called to fulfill that role in being the light to the world. According to Paul, the Gentiles are saved by being grafted into Israel. The fulfillment of the promise given to Israel will be brought forth through the church.

TERMS

- Telos: the ancient Greek term for an end, fulfillment, completion, goal, or aim; it is the source of the modern word 'teleology'
- Hermeneutic: a method or theory of interpretation, the interpretation of language, whether written or spoken
- Ecclesiology: the study of the Church, the origins of Christianity, its relationship to Jesus, its role in salvation, its polity, its discipline, its eschatology, and its leadership
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SUMMARY

Part 8 is titled, “the community of the gospelized”, otherwise known as the church. Section 1 gives the definition and history of the evangelical church and evangelical theology. The aim of a “gospelized community” is to know the gospel, preach the gospel, and live lives according to the law of the gospel. Section 8.1 concludes with an excerpt outlining the relationship between the kingdom and the church. Section 8.2 gives imagery of the church. It gives examples of shared imagery in the Old and New Testaments as well as detailed images unique to the New Testament. It ends with an excerpt discussing the intersection and fulfillment of the church and Israel.