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TH602. Systematic Theology II
Assignment 8: Bird 8.1 - 8.2.2

Quiz Questions

1- According to Bird, what should be the “rallying cry for a renewed ecclesiology” (805)?

A: “reformed catholicity” (805)

2- What are the 2 of the 6 characteristics of the church according to Bird?

A: community of praise, community of truth, community that is involved locally, community where people are equipped to exercise their priesthood, community of mutual responsibility, community of hope

3- What popular theological view supports the view that current Jews are still part of a chosen race by God?

A: Dispensationalism

4- What is Paul's most notable contribution to the image of the church?

A: the body of christ analogy

5- In what year did most Christians part ways with common Judaism and its practices?

A: AD 70

Terms

Ekklesia - Greek word which serves as the root word for church in many languages; meaning gathering or assembly

Ecclesiology - the study of the Church

Sonderweg - German for special path or way

Summary

In chapters 8.1 to 8.2.2, Bird discusses the Evangelical church and biblical images of the Church. He begins by describing the paramount importance of the church, an essence which has been lost in today's evangelicalism. He notes the church is the (1) company of the gospel, (2) the face of the gospel, and (3) the hermeneutic of the gospel (808). Some biblical images of the Church in the Old Testament include the people of God, the elect, the flock with God as shepherd, the priesthood, and the remnant. The New Testament portrays the church as the body of Christ, temple of God, and new creation. Biblically, the church fully replaces Israel as the chosen family of God following Christ's death and resurrection.