

the idea of dividing the first five books of the Bible into separate narratives is neither correct nor practical.

But what of those statements by Moses? He is a prophet. He reveals God's will; and while there is no way to know exactly what he either did nor did not know, his messages came from God. He could witness his own weakness and meekness; and also, by the objective power of the Holy Spirit, talk of things otherwise unknowable.

There is, of course, no historical evidence for "J," "E," "D," or "P." Whence did they come? The mind of man. Astruc, the French physician, first made public the difference in the 18th century. German rationalism carried the study after that. Today this false teaching is widely propagated, but it is unknown both in history and the true Christian church.

The composition of the Bible may be vindicated against all such human schemes. In the case of those who are simply opposed to all supernaturalism or resent the claims of the Bible to authority, there is little that can be said. But where hearts are prepared to study the facts and honor the conclusions, the composition of God's Word will be found within the Bible and will admit of neither error, forgery, human development, nor contradiction.

This problem in authorship and composition of the Bible is typical of objections raised to other Old and New Testament books. We need not study them all in this series. The student needs to follow the general principle of trusting the Bible, examining it where possible, accepting it on its own value where no further tests may be applied. Its composition was ruled by God and that gives it the needed authority.

Recently these Genesis accounts have been put to a linguistic test by computer, and the results are interesting. Quoted in the TRENTONIAN (Trenton, N.J.)