

that , you will probably deserve it. Note that H.S. Miller, GENERAL BIBLICAL INTRODUCTION, while an older work, has many helpful and simplified definitions in this area.

C. Importance of Introduction as a Formal Study

1. As an aid to the expression of the faith, introduction helps remove much that is uncertain and unsure and replaces it with knowledge that makes the expression of faith more concrete and personal. It has great value in simply dispelling ignorance.

2. Consequently introduction helps in making the concepts of the Old Testament more available...it is an aid in discovering the practicality of the application of Biblical concepts.

3. By offering a greater positivity about what we have available and what we may know, it increases the thoroughness of the work of the ministry in the presentation of truth.

4. And, finally, the work of introduction helps to confirm and render more sure the work of the New Testament. The unity of Scripture is consolidated through this study in a very powerful way.

No doubt these values could be expressed in other terms and in better ways than these, such as they are, but they will help us begin our study on positive ground.

D. Contemporary Disciplines and Old Testament Study

1. Archaeology

No other discipline has been of greater value to the Old Testament student than has archaeology. Liberals have, on the whole, tended to minimize it or ignore it in past years while fundamentalists have occasionally made it an end in itself. In Old Testament Introduction we see the value of archaeology and seek to keep it in proper perspective.

a. The character of Archaeology

As a science, archaeology has developed in the past 200 years. Although dabbled in by many of the fathers (remember St. Helena's fame in this area?),