

doubtful in its character. In the account of the world's creation and first difficulty we find one of these. P, in Genesis 1-6, uses these chapters.

1:1-2:4a 5:1-28 5:30-32 6:9-22

If this P narrative is read as a single entity you will quickly discover that it has no account of the fall or of the particular cause of the great flood. It is hard to imagine creative accounts that do not have a note on these while showing the outcome of them. P goes from a world of perfection to a world of near-total sin with no notice as to what happened there or how it came to be. The omission of the fall is surely a serious shortcoming in the narrative. Allis, THE FIVE BOOKS OF MOSES cites a good many more instances like these. Since P is considered the most consistent and clearest document along these lines, one can see that not much could be hoped for from J and E.

/3/ Observations

There are too many concessions needed to be made in the handling of the text to make this particular point feasible. The very idea of a multiplicity of sources is against it unless one is willing to somehow allow that originally they all said about the same thing and parts have been diminished from one in deference to another (think of it: three pentateuchs!) Therefore depending on how one cuts and chooses, this idea cannot be applied consistently..but if the cuts and choices are "right" it could equally be used on anything written.

(3) Argument for partition as based on parallel passages (This argument is really under attack today so the material in this part of the syllabus is historic.)

(a) Statement

As the documents are combined, the same event is recorded twice (or more often) and this shows a duplication of sources.