

Strong arguments are made for it after the postulations are offered but it is an assumptive matter.

c. The Psyche cults

Only externally different from the previous suggestion, the kingship motif has been modified by Engnell, Nyberg, etc., to see the cult as one of the psyche more than kingship. The essential idea is still that of ritual tie through the national institutions to the great wise God who rules over all. The founding groups of the nation constitute the key to knowing of God and His direction. The covenantal aspect is somewhat downplayed.

d. The Deuteronomy arguments

The earlier view of DeWette (seeing Deuteronomy originate in the days of Josiah) is not nearly so unanimous in acceptance today. The late date assigned to D (about 620) has many detractors among modern scholars. Early challenges came from Holscher (1924) and Welch (1932). The former made D even later than DeWette while the latter thought a Davidic date seemed more accurate. E. Robinson (1935) suggested an earlier date for D as he thought it seemed to be known at the time of the conquest! He also felt that D did not show "development" but rather indicated differing ideas and circumstances.

Following this general thrust, there has been a large effort in recent years to compare D with the material of the Hittite treaties, etc., and to show its common expression with these documents. The idea follows that D is dependent on treaty forms, et al, that were not well known after the 11th century and that hence it must be early. Where this line will eventually lead or take us, I know not.

The present thrust then with regard to D is to date it earlier but make it dependent on non-Israeli sources. It is a small concession to truth if we say it was written early and then say it was written after the Hittite ideas by a law firm making a charter for a wandering J-circle group in the Syrian deserts!

e. Barthianism

This is more properly a theological subject and not a matter of text criticism but I wanted to insert a note on it. In the system of Barth, et al, there is great stress on revelation but it is personal and not