

question is: Why does he say "unto this day?" These also fall into the category seen by some Christians as clerical or editorial examples of the later renovations of the mss. Moses may have used the term as a sort of expressive oath...that is how it is...not meaning that the situation had existed for a long time but that is how and what it is now. An emphasis is thereby afforded. But it is not impossible that some text worker may have added them...it does seem unlikely but there is so much time between the writing of the mss and the actual widespread circulation of the same that almost anything could have happened.

(4) Apparent or seeming anachronisms

Dt. 34:1...And the Lord showed him...unto Dan

Gen. 40:15...Stolen out of the land of the Hebrews...

Gen. 14:14...pursued them unto Dan...

It is thought that the use of these names in the Pentateuch, since it is before the land was possessed, is given much too early and therefore some think the phrases are anachronisms...reading back to the time some aspect of history or truth. The names are all rather common ones however and there would seem to be no reason why they could not have been place or local names even before the children of Israel were there.

(5) Passages supposed to show contrary content

Gen. 36:31..."any king over the children of Israel..."

Dt. ...the side of Jordan...

In the case of the former it is thought the reference could not be made before there was a king in Israel. But if Moses is the author...he knew that God's eventual plan was to have a king but there was none yet...and in the case of the second (Harrison again discusses it well) the particular phrase does not suggest a crossing of the Jordan and looking backward...it might be written in truth from any point near the Jordan and the crossing or marginal area.