

have many statements in the Old Testament and in the New that imply rather definitely that Moses was the writer.

There are a few very godly and orthodox men who say that they believe that the whole Bible is God's Word and that every word of the Pentateuch in the original is inspired of God, but who suggest that it does not matter who was the author, but just that a part of God's Word is called "the book of Moses," but I do not think their reasoning is correct. Yet, I am not ready to say that those men are non-Christians or even unorthodox, but I think they are taking a dangerous and erroneous position. After all, the Lord Jesus Christ spoke of the book as a book written by Moses and spoke of statements in it as being what Moses had said. And if you interpret it that way, then you cannot possibly deny the Mosaic authorship without denying the deity of Christ. If you exegete the New Testament that way, which seems to me the only reasonable way, then you cannot deny the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch without making Christ a mere human being and denying His divinity. The Scriptural teaching that Jesus Christ is the Son of God Who knew man and did not need that anyone should tell him what was in man, because He knew what was in man, makes it impossible to take any other view than that Moses is the author of the Pentateuch (though, as I said, there are a few who think they can interpret Christ's words in another way). I am not ready to say they are dishonest, but that they have a method of exegesis that I do not understand and that makes me a little suspicious about their exegesis in other places. If they say they accept the Pentateuch as entirely inspired and God's Word as free from error, I am ready to take their word on that.

The authorship is not the most vital thing about the Pentateuch. The extremely vital thing is whether it is true. Is it God's Word? Is it free from error? That is the vital thing. But the authorship seems to be recognized in the Old Testament a great deal and it certainly is recognized in the New Testament, it seems to me, and if you interpret the New Testament that way, then you must say that Moses is the author of it and most interpreters, liberal or conservative, consider that Jesus' words show that He considered Moses the author of the Pentateuch. Someone said Christ just was not interested in problems of