

higher criticism of the Pentateuch he selected from Green's book on the Pentateuch. He condensed three or four of Green's books! It is largely made up of quotations, without saying that it is, along with some quotations from other works. Nevertheless, it is useful to have all this in one book.

If Moses had chosen to take writings that Abraham and Noah and various people had written, just to fit them together, I am not sure there would have been great harm in his doing so. The Holy Spirit might have led him to take those sections word for word and combine them. But I do not think you can say that He did unless you have pretty good proof of it. The question is not: What are the sources from which Moses got his material? The question is: Can you distinguish such sources in what he wrote? If somebody says that Moses used written documents, I am ready to say that it is highly probable that he did. But if somebody says, "I can divide the book of Genesis into the original documents and here they are," I say, "How do you know you can divide it up? How do you know that he did not give in his own words the material he got from various sources? Is it possible to do this?" Astruc thought it was, but he hesitated very much about publishing his ideas. He was afraid people would think he was heretical. He was afraid he might get into difficulty. When he published his book it had a very interesting title in French: "Conjectures about the original memoirs which it appeared that Moses used in composing the Book of Genesis with certain remarks which help to clarify these conjectures." When he wrote his book he published it anonymously. He hesitated about publishing it at all, but a friend, who he says was a very zealous Romanist, told him that the idea that Moses used memoirs had already been advanced by well approved authors, that there was nothing heretical in that, and that there was no reason he could not publish it. Astruc published his book without the name of any author and very few people paid any attention to it. In his *Philosophical Dictionary* Voltaire criticized it and ridiculed it, but otherwise hardly anyone paid any attention to it. It would not have mattered except for the fact that later on, when the higher criticism went in this direction from other causes, they looked back and saw that Astruc had made a start in this direction. Since it is the direction in which the higher criticism eventually went it is good for us to know