

De Wette continued to study and write, and he began to examine the rest of the Pentateuch. In his earlier writings he generally followed the Fragmentary Hypothesis, but as time went on he began to declare that it was not a satisfactory interpretation. He found that there is unity and progress in the Pentateuch. It is not just a lot of separate fragments that somebody put together to make a book. Thus De Wette came to accept the next step in the criticism and was one of its strong supporters for a time, but he was not its originator so I will not discuss it under De Wette but under the third head which I will name after it:

3) *The Supplement Hypothesis*: a strong reaction against the Fragmentary Hypothesis (C1). The founder of the Supplement Hypothesis was **Heinrich Ewald**. He was one of the great German Old Testament scholars. He had a brilliant mind and deserves equal rank with Eichhorn as a man of great importance in the critical study.

In 1823 Ewald published a book, *The Critical Investigation of the Composition of Genesis*, in which he assailed the Fragmentary Hypothesis. He said that you will find a unity in the book of Genesis running straight through it. It is designed to exhibit the history of God's people from their origin until they were brought down into Egypt. He said that many idioms and expressions are repeated showing the general unity of viewpoint and style through the entire book of Genesis. There is a progress, he said, through the book. There are subtitles in different places, but you find these in other books and particularly in Arabic literature. He quoted much from Arabic literature. He criticized the idea that it had been made out of a lot of little sections just thrown together. He said that actually there are thousands of little connections between these sections, and that the idea that they are not interrelated is utterly absurd. Even though Hartmann's book had not yet been written, Ewald may be said to have given the death stroke to the Fragmentary Hypothesis. The Fragmentary Hypothesis continued for a time, but Ewald's attack caused many to give it up. De Wette joined in the attack. Before many years passed the Fragmentary Hypothesis completely disappeared. Unfortunately, it was not replaced by a recognition of the