took a position as professor in Oxford University, training other missionaries and ministers. [laughter] He asked me to find him a position in the United States, but I have not found one for him yet, so I suppose he is still teaching in Oxford. It just goes to show what can happen if you are not well grounded yourself. It is very easy to say, "I know it is right; it would be a sin for me to doubt it; I am going to stand on this." But, if you are to be truly effective, you need to learn the facts and face the difficulties fairly and fully.

Colenso had accepted ideas because he had been taught them. He assumed them, instead of going into the evidence and examining the facts for himself. Then, Colenso could not answer their questions and began to ask, "Is this correct after all?" He began to raise questions about parts of the Pentateuch and, to his surprise, he found that the parts he was questioning were in the "ground writing" rather than the parts he had been told were interpolations, added later. Today he is considered a great hero of criticism, because he tore up the ground writing instead of the alleged supplements and interpolations.

Ewald's Crystallization Hypothesis did not win general acceptance, but scholars began to find difficulties in the Supplement Hypothesis. As they studied, trying to see how they could make it water-tight, they kept finding new problems. The next step was the Modified Document Hypothesis.

4) The Modified Document Hypothesis: Hupfeld (1853)

This modification of the theory was an attempt to solve the difficulties, but it was not considered satisfactory by many people. Looking back at it today Hupfeld is considered a great hero of criticism, but at the time some people thought he was going off on a wrong trend altogether.

Hupfeld wrote his book in 1853, a date which will be easy to remember, because it is exactly one hundred years after Astruc wrote.

Hupfeld found difficulties in the supplement theory. Colenso and