

It is interesting to note that Astruc and Eichhorn had not thought of it that way. They did not think of that as being a contradiction. It did not occur to them that way. Another thing about it is, according to the theory, somebody put the documents together. They call him a redactor. There probably were thirty different redactors who came on at stages and made different combinations, according to the theory. But at any rate, the redactor who made the final combination by combining and fitting together the P document and the J document, if he understood the P document as saying the name Jehovah was not given until now, why does he just change the name two or three or maybe a dozen times before? Why did he not change it right through and make it consistent? Or it is more reasonable to say he did not understand it that way? That he did not understand this statement to mean that the J document was entirely wrong, otherwise it would certainly be a stupid thing to combine a little from one and a little from the other if all through one of them was saying something contradictory to a plain statement which was carried through consistently by the other one. I think we can safely say that if there were such documents, and they were put together, the redactor would have to have interpreted Exodus 6:3 in some other way. Nobody can say that we are now beginning to try to twist things around and get a new interpretation in order to avoid the difficulty, for the interpretation that makes the difficulty has only come in recently and it has not been so interpreted before. Not only was it not so interpreted by Astruc and Eichhorn – it was not by the redactor, if there was a redactor who combined them, and there must have been if they ever existed as distinct documents.

So the question is: is that what this chapter really means? “By my name Jehovah was I not known to them?” Does that mean that they were not familiar with this name? We find that the word *know* is used constantly in the Scripture in a sense that means much more than just to be familiar with the facts. The term know is used to come to really understand something fully, to enter into its complete meaning. We are told to follow on to know the Lord. The book of Hosea refers to knowing God over and over again. It does not mean just becoming familiar with a few facts about Him. In Scripture the word know has that sense which it has occasionally in English, but not as a rule. It has