

seemed to me that it was a truer picture of the Gospel attitude to use both names, sometimes one and sometimes the other, than it would be to try to be consistent. But you can see the way it started: in the one case there probably was a reason why I used the name Christ and in the other case probably a reason why I used the name Jesus. I do not remember what it was, but from there on I just used it continuously until some reason occurred for a change.

And we do this in our references to other people. In our talking to them and in our speaking of them you do not have to have a reason every time why you select a particular name to be used. It is not at all unreasonable that Moses should have written the Pentateuch using the names exactly as they are used. Sometimes there is a reason, other times it may be merely an arbitrary selection and at still other times simply continuing the use of the one that had been used before. It is a perfectly natural thing and is not an argument for two documents unless you can show that when you divide it on the basis of divine names, (and do it consistently without introducing a redactor into it to explain away your problems), the argument from the divine names, as an argument for division into different documents, pretty thoroughly breaks down in view of the various considerations at which we have looked.

Dr. Allis brings out an interesting fact about this. He says that it is often hard to know the reason for a particular name. For instance “man of God” occurs about seventy-five times and “servant of God” rarely if ever. “The angel of Jehovah” is used much more often than “the angel of Elohim” – about five to one. But both of them occur. There is “the man of God,” and “the servant of Jehovah.” The prophet is the Lord’s servant, who is called the man of God much more frequently than he is called the servant of the Lord. Does the Bible, as it stands, use it so unnaturally that you have to say these are evidences? I have given various evidences that it is not unnatural nor unparalleled in other documents; other phrases seem to shift back and forth as they do. They say, “No, when you have one name it shows one document, and when you have the other, it shows the other one.” But the fact is that their documents are not consistent, and they admit that sometimes there is a reason for using a particular one.