

Genesis”), of the 1,534 verses in Genesis he gives about 780 to J, and about 730 to P and E together (in other words, the original Elohist). And of the 730 which are assigned to P and E, nearly 200 are in the first nineteen chapters, and practically all of these are given to P. The remaining 550 verses are mostly assigned to E. Driver gives just a little more than half of the total verses to J, a little less than half to P and E together. And of those in P and E about a fourth of them are in Genesis 1-19. So in Genesis 20-50 there are about 550 verses given to E and P together, with only one-third to P. Thus, here we have the last thirty chapters with only 175 verses in them given to P. So in Genesis P, which was originally called the foundation writing, and supposed to be the start of it with a distinctive and unmistakable style, has now been reduced by the critics to the smallest of the three documents, and most of the material of P is in a few chapters, and the rest of it is mostly tiny little fragments scattered throughout the book. Consequently, there will be several chapters with just half a verse or a verse taken out and given to P.

If you go through either of these documents you will consistently find many places where one assumes things told in the other without explanation. If this thread runs straight through to make a complete P document it raises a serious question. But is there evidence that this is a document, or is it an attempt to combine things to try and make something that will be continuous and as complete as possible!

So much for a brief resume of this vital matter. Continuing with our discussion, we were looking last time at B [Continuous Narrative] and C [Parallel Passages]. We have not yet spent much time on C because B and C are so connected that it is easier to look at them together (even though each of them is to some extent a distinct argument). Sometimes the same man would work on both, but as a rule it would be two different men. Then what Graf said brought the two together, and doing this, he strengthened both, by producing a systematized arrangement in which each seemed to spring from the other, and in that way each gave strength to the other. But the question is, can either of them stand alone?

If you are dealing with ignorant people it may be more effective to