

“let there be light, and there was light. And God saw what was made and it was good, and it was evening and morning, one day.” Then that structure is repeated as different things are made; there is a tabulation: God gave a command; something was created; God saw that it was good. (This part occurs several times, but not every time.) Also, there was evening and there was morning, (a certain day). This enumeration is repeated through six days. The critics say that this is the distinctive repetitive style of P; that it is monotonous, statistical, and enumerative in contrast to the narrative style of J. They say that this is the distinctive style of P, and that there is no question about it being a distinct writing.

Most of the material of P really has a distinctive subject matter, rather than a distinctive style. This subject matter calls for a different type of style. A different style is natural for a different subject.

Luther gave a great address to the German nobility, in which he pointed out how much German money was going to Rome, showing the economic oppression of Germany by Rome. In that same year Luther also wrote a statement called the *Babylonian Captivity of The Church*, and showed how the influence of the Roman curate was destroying the ability of the German church to show people how to be saved, and how it was keeping people from the knowledge of salvation by its “seven sacraments.” These two fiery polemic articles, which Luther wrote in that year, might immediately be seen to be very similar in style. We would have no question about whether Martin Luther wrote both of them. Yet in that very same year he also wrote an essay *On Christian Liberty* in which he winsomely shows the privilege the Christian has through his liberty from the fear of punishment and guilt which comes to him through the grace of Christ. As we read this beautiful presentation of the freedom and rights of the Christian we find that its style is utterly different from the fiery polemic style of the other two essays that he wrote in that very same year. He was dealing with different subjects!

I do not know whether you have heard of Ray Stannard Baker, who was a well known writer on politics and economics about thirty years ago. He edited the letters and state papers of Woodrow Wilson. At