

older you associate with people and you imitate them, and as an individual you select certain things to imitate and ignore others. You may even develop your own originality, although there is comparatively little of that. Most of what you do is imitation. Therefore, a really unique style for an individual is a very rare thing. We hear many things, and our styles consist of them. So, our styles are always in a state of flux. If you take two books written by different people you can go through them and ascertain distinct styles. You need a definite basis to see what the styles are. Each style is a mixture of all the different influences that have come upon a person. Consequently, to select parts out of a document as distinct styles without having a definite pattern as to what these styles are, is very, very difficult.

In Germany about one hundred and fifty years ago there was a large critical movement that believed styles could be separated out this way. They did not just do it with the Bible, but they did it with many other books. It is very interesting the way that it was done with the writing of the German poet, Goethe. You have all heard of him; he was one of the great geniuses of literature. His most famous work *Faust* has been translated into many languages. It is a long epic poem, which has had tremendous influence on many literary and philosophical leaders in Germany and throughout the world. His work has been studied and discussed at great length. Numerous people were studying and analyzing his style. There was a great German scholar in the field of style analysis, named Scherer, who wrote a book on the style of Goethe's *Faust*. Goethe worked on this book more or less all his life, writing sections at different times. Shortly before his death Goethe issued the complete book of *Faust*. This scholar said it is very interesting to see in its Prologue the effect of the different parts of Goethe's life. He said that certain lines reflect the exuberance of youth and the optimism of a man with the world before him, and therefore this section was written when Goethe was a young man. Then he said certain lines show the tiredness and disillusionment of old age, and therefore this part was written towards the end of his life. Thus he divided up Goethe's *Faust* into various parts on the alleged differences of style.

Later a manuscript came to light that Goethe had written, and its