

4) *Recent Archaeological developments.*

Recent archeological studies have forced such changes so as to violently disrupt the former critical unity.

As far back as 1929, when I first met Professor Albright in Jerusalem, I remember that on the very first day after I met him, he was discussing with me the attitude of German scholarship toward the Pentateuch, and he said, “There are now only two orthodox Wellhausenists in Germany, and they are not orthodox.” In other words, while all the scholarly world today gives lip service to the Wellhausen Theory as they do to the Darwinian Theory of Evolution, the details of the Darwinian Theory of Evolution have been almost completely given up. The Wellhausen theory has not been given up to nearly as great an extent or changed nearly as much as the evolutionary theory has been, but at point after point, archaeological evidence has shown that parts of the material found do not fit the critical theory at all. During the past thirty years all first-hand scholars – men who do not simply take over from someone else, but who really study a matter themselves and have sufficient knowledge and background actually to work into the subject, even though holding to the Wellhausen theory as true, have been trying to incorporate this archaeological material. So they say, “Yes, this material here in the P document is true, and must have come from a very early time.” Of course, they would say, “we know that the P document was written at the time of the exile, so this material must have been passed down very accurately from the very earliest time.” Someone else will say, “No, I do not believe that part, but here is another part that must be early.”

In 1929, one day when I was riding down the Jordan Valley on horseback with Dr. Albright and Professor Jirku of the University of Breslau in Germany, they were discussing Genesis 14 – a chapter which, according to the Wellhausen theory is late and not at all reliable – and one of them said, “You know, I do not think the Wellhausen theory is entirely correct about this chapter.” Then he would refer to a number of verses that he was sure had come from the earliest times. “So,” he said, “while the chapter as a whole is late, this portion is