

I were to start telling you how I had dropped in and seen Truman every month for the last twelve months, you would not believe me unless I could make some statement to prove that he considered me important enough to give me that attention. So there is no reason in the world for us to reject this statement.

About the other one, that Moses was very meek, Moses was in a situation there where any ordinary man would have stood up and fought with these people who were criticizing him for the woman he had married. Anybody else would have stood up and fought. “You may not like the color of her skin, but she is the one I love and I have married her and it is between me and the Lord whom I have married and none of your affair whatever.” But Moses did not do that! Moses kept quiet, and the Lord intervened. The Lord called them out and rebuked them severely for having criticized Moses for the color of the skin of the woman whom he had married. So under the circumstances, the statement is necessary, “The man Moses was very meek.” There is no reason in the world why Moses, knowing how his pride had been the cause of condemnation by the Lord, and knowing that he had his faults as others do, should not explain that in this particular incident he had shown a very unusual attitude, that he had stood by quietly as hardly anybody else would have done.

If you do not want to say Moses could have done that, you might say it was an interpolation someone else put in at a later time. He could hardly understand how Moses could have submitted to their criticisms, so he put in a footnote and said, “Now the man Moses was very meek.” It is just a matter of one sentence, but on the basis of those two sentences and a few others which are much less important than those two, Aalders says that Moses could not have written them, so he says that the Pentateuch was probably written sometime between the time of Saul and the time of Solomon. In my opinion, these two chapters give very silly arguments for a position which utterly destroys the whole stand for the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch. If you take those two chapters out, I believe that Aalders’ book would be very excellent. The rest of it is very useful, but I cannot recommend it without giving a discussion of those two chapters.