302 - Higher Criticism of the Pentateuch

End of Pentateuch Class for year 1951-1952, beginning January 29, 1952 and ending May 7, 1952 by Dr. Allan A. MacRae at Faith Theological Seminary, Elkins Park, Pennsylvania.

Appendix

Quotes on Pentateuch Lectures by students, etc.

For sheer intellectual adventure and enjoyment I cannot look back upon any course I took whether in college, theological seminary, or in graduate linguistic studies that can compare with The Introduction to the Pentateuch, taught by Allan A. MacRae at Faith Theological Seminary in the mid-1940's. The impression that the course made on me is poignant and fresh. Professor MacRae spent half of the semester building up the positive case for the partitioning of the Pentateuch according to the tenets of source criticism. He did so good a job of it that many of us in the class began to suspect that he was like the painter who paints himself into the proverbial corner. Then about halfway through the semester he began to walk about the edifice that he had so carefully built and pull at a brick here or kick a beam there, until the edifice began to wobble visibly. But even his demolition - although very thorough - was carried out somewhat wistfully with the desire, expressed several times, that he had had at least one true believer in source criticism with us in class to argue with him and impress on us the seriousness of the controversy!

Robert Longacre

Allan had been influenced greatly by Robert Dick Wilson who was careful not to side-step the difficult questions of the Old Testament. Like Wilson, he took his students on a painstaking review of Pentateuchal criticism and the single authorship of Isaiah. We spent a month, three hours a week, on the latter. We took a whole semester to consider the development of documentary theories concerning the writings of Moses. Such time-consuming study was not appreciated by many students, but the professor always insisted that only the truth