

through this property two hundred years ago or not. If Jesus Christ was a mere man active in Palestine in the first century A.D., what would He know about things 1400 or 1500 years before? It would not make the slightest difference what He said about them. If He said He saw something in His own day, His witness would be of importance.

Josephus is a firsthand historical witness. In his book against Appian he tells about the views of the Jews of his day, and what he says is of primary importance on this subject because he knew it from firsthand information. When Josephus talks about the antiquities of the Jews, when he tells us what Saul said when he saw the Philistines coming, how he stood and said, "To be or not to be, that is the question. Should I kill myself and save my honor, or should I let the Philistines catch me and take me as a prisoner?," and gives us the soliloquy that Saul expressed, then we know that Josephus is using his imagination. It is interesting to see what Josephus thought Saul might have said, but Josephus had only the Old Testament from which to get his information, so anything that Josephus says about Old Testament times is not a source for knowledge. It is only what is in the Old Testament that is his source, because Josephus knew nothing in addition to what he found in the Old Testament. It was long before his day and he had no access to any direct evidence about it. Now if Jesus Christ was a mere man, it is altogether natural that He would refer to what Moses wrote, that He would say that you read this in the writings of Moses, and so on, because He thought what everybody else thought, that Moses had written it. And if scholarship come along today and proves Moses did not write them, we are no more surprised than if he thought the earth was flat. We do not criticize Julius Caesar if he thought the earth was flat -- he did