

The OT in the Life of the Believer

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Lecture XXV

Two weeks ago we were speaking about the spies, the sending of the spies and the result that followed, and we were looking at the time at the higher criticism. And so I would like to give briefly No. 5 under F.

5. Conclusion Regarding the Higher Criticism. It's interesting today that if you will go to the library and pick up books -- popular books on the Bible, on Genesis, on the OT, or almost any similar subject you will find that the HC is assumed and presented as established fact. But the fact that is less known is that if you will look at books by men who are working in the field of general literature or men who are working in the field of philosophy, and you find references to it, you are apt to find a different attitude altogether. The great mass of people today in the intellectual world simply assume that the HC is true, and if they write a popular book they take it for granted. But those in the area of philosophy or literary criticism who have occasion to look into it without any particular motive one way or the other are apt to see what a tissue of imagination it is. I've been looking through lately several books by Prof. Kauffmann professor of philosophy at Princeton University, very hostile to Christianity, in fact he is hostile to the idea of the existence of God at all, but in two or three of these books he devotes several pages to talking about the HC and showing how it is quite without any foundation. We have a situation today where we need to speak out on it; we need to know enough about it to speak intelligently. It is a very very strong force today. Those who read Kauffman's books, my guess is the great majority of them do not pay much attention to it and are not much influenced by the few pages where he scoffs at the HC. But they are greatly influenced by the many pages in which he scoffs at the idea of the existence of God. But those who look into it without an anti-religious motive tend to move against it, and we ought to find ways of utilizing that for the increase of faith in God's Word.

G. God's Anger and Moses' Intercession, Num. 14:11-25. Here we have it vividly told how God was so utterly disgusted at the attitude of unbelief that was shown and