

out there you can sign. It says on there for a free subscription to the Bulletin, but I shall tell them to send that issue to everyone who asks for it. There is another (issue) of the Bulletin in which there is an article which I wrote in which I tried to give the solid reasons why this Wellhausen theory is not dependable. I tried to give a few main, clear, reasons that could be very effective if you have to deal with somebody who is being led astray by it.

So if you should sign for the Bulletin, and if you should want this material about the Wellhausen theory I wish you would write on the back of the slip "also would like the Wellhausen theory article", because I don't think most people are particularly interested in it but some of you may have members of your family who are studying in a college where they are being given courses in which this is being presented as fact which everybody accepts. It is amazing how many people from good Christian homes have been swept off their moorings by this Wellhausen theory. I believe the facts are clearly against it, and I try to summarize it in this article. So if you would particularly like that just write "Wellhausen" on the back and we'll see that that article is sent to you.

This Wellhausen theory has probably been the most effective single force in destroying faith in the Word of God. When the theory was first presented, it was presented this way: This is what literary scholars do with all literature; they took the writings of Homer and divided them up into sections, and said there is this source and this source and this source, and they come together this way. They did that with the English story of Beowulf. They did it with the German Niebelungenlied. They even did it with the writings of Goethe and most of our classical works from antiquity. They ~~were~~ were divided up that way, the way the liberals divided up all the books of the Scripture as time went on.

They said, We have to treat the Bible the same way we treat any other piece of literature. About 15 years ago I made an investigation into this claim. I got all the recent books then that had been written in the last 15 years before that, on the subject of general literature. Books of literary criticism. I looked in all of them. Looked up higher criticism in the index. I found that most of them today never even mention it (higher criticism). The few that did when I looked at the place, were referring to this treatment of the Bible.

It was extended for nearly 200 years to most types of literature, and today it is almost entirely abandoned by literary scholars. But the people in just about every university department of religion and in just about every theological seminary that was in existence as much as 80 years ago, just about every one of them in the world, is teaching this theory today as established fact. The literary scholars have found that the method simply doesn't work. They have abandoned it and most of them have forgotten that it ever was the trend. I have a few good quotations from books about that time which point out this fact--how it has been abandoned by literary scholars. But today it is still one of the primary forces of attacks upon the Bible.