

Eliminates Contradictions

Ryle in HBD, p. 146

Gn 21.17f explanation of Ishmael's name
 32.8 explanation of Mahanaim
 33.10 " " Peniel
 cf. 31.25

Insertions to remove contradictions
 4.25; 10.24; 21.14; 26.1a,15,18
 35.9; 37.5b,8b; 29.1,20; 43.14;
 46.1

Transposing entire portions of the narrative

Additions to bring documents into harmony
 21.34; 27.46; 35.5; 46.12,20

Speiser, Genesis, p. 261, 279

33.18 contains a gloss from P —
 the rest . . . are additions from
 E (p.261)

37.3 "...conflicting compilations,
 evidently by different researchers
 in the 'P' school." (p.279)

Hooke in Peake's, p.196

J's attempt to harmonize seen in
 Gn 29.4

Skinner, Genesis ICC, p.417n
 Naturally the redactor has been
 busy smoothing over discrepancies

Does Not Eliminate Contradictions

Speiser, Genesis, p. 233; 211-212

Gn 29.31-30.24 "...the compiler who did the work refrained from arbitrary leveling and harmonizing. However inconsistent the respective traditions might appear to be, they were not to be tampered with by later custodians." (p.233)

On Gn 27.1-45 "In short, J did not edit his data. He only retold, in his own matchless, what tradition had handed down to him. To be sure, much of this matter has been immensely enriched by the depth of his own understanding. Yet J also recorded, with scrupulous impartiality, some things that he did not comprehend..." (p.211-212)

Von Rad, Genesis, p.294,222,228

Gn.30.25-43 Possibly one must reckon with errors of later glossators who no longer completely understood the text or wanted the process to be understood differently . . . (294)

Gn 20 ". . . caused an inconsistency that the redactors could not remove" (p.222)

Gn 21.14 "At the price of a very difficult sentence stylistically the redactor altered the text of v. 14 without thereby removing the inconsistency."

Driver, LOT, p.16

". . . additions made by the compiler for the purpose of harmonizing. . . "

B.W. Anderson, UtheOT, 1966 ed, p.167

"the Yahwist . . . changing what he received only in minor ways. He had no intention of rewriting all the traditions to make them fit into a smoothly consistent theological system. In fact, he permitted theological archaisms to stand."