

Term Higher Criticism

In Peake's Commentary on the Bible(1962) in the article "The Textual Criticism of the New Testament" by K. W. Clark, p. 665

"The science of textual criticism has certain more immediate objectives and tasks. Everyone understands the effort to recover the original NT text. This discipline is properly called higher criticism, by which is meant that it concerns itself with discovering the original (like seeking the upper source of a stream). To recover the NT writings in original form is the ultimate goal and will always be the main objective to textual criticism, as it unites with other disciplines to penetrate to Christian origins. But textual criticism has other tasks ~~which~~ that belong to lower criticism, concerned with tracing the course of transmission (like exploring the lower course of a stream).