

Memorandum to Mr. Koontz:

I have been thinking of a sort of investigation that I believe would be quite profitable. It is to deal with the idea that the critics are able to look at a passage and tell what is the situation in which it was produced. I would suggest that we take three stories: the story of creation in Genesis 2, of the fall in Genesis 3, and of the flood in Genesis 6-9. Looking now simply at the portion of these stories attributed to J, it would be good to see whether <sup>1)</sup> Driver in his Commentary on Genesis, and <sup>2)</sup> Skinner in his Commentary say much as to the situation out of which they think that these stories rose. Then it would be good to see what <sup>3)</sup> Simpson did with them. Does he put them into J1 or J2? Just when does he think that each of them was composed, and what was its purpose? Do the same for Morganstern. Also see what <sup>4)</sup> Pfeiffer has to say about these particular ~~xxx~~ stories. Does <sup>5)</sup> Eissfeldt put them into his L section or in J? ~~xxx~~ Has he any particular note about their origin?

It is my impression that with definite quotes from these various writers on these particular passages we can have some amazing differences of opinion that will be excellent evidence to show just how uncertain and undependable the whole approach is.