

Parrot, Andre, Abraham and His Times. Trans. by James H. Farley (Fortress Press: Philadelphia) 1962. Translation, 1968

((Other Critical Theories besides Wellhausen's re the Patriarchs))

p.3 Several authors endeavored to do this, although the influence of Wellhausen was not diminished in the process.⁴ The following are the principal theses maintained.⁵ The patriarchs were mythological figures, deities, in the beginning. Then they were heroes, then, finally, men (E. Meyer, B. Luther, R. Weill). The narratives were ethnic stories, in which events that originally concerned tribes were personalized and individualized (Ryle, S. Driver); they were based on themes from folk-lore or on figures of folk-poetry (Gunkel). Many relationships had an etiological motive, that is, they were included in order to explain an existing social, juridical, or cultic reality (M. Noth, A. Lods⁶).

⁴ Julius Wellhausen (1844-1918) retired in 1913. His works ran into many editions: Prologomena zur Geschichte Israels (6th ed., 1905) (Eng. trans. Menzies and Black, Prologomena to the History of Ancient Israel [New York, Meridian paperback, 1957]); Die Composition des Hexateuchs und der historischen Bucher des Alten Testaments (4th ed., 1963); Israelitische und judische Geschichte (9th ed., 1958).

p.3,4 ((The contributions of archaeological research after World War I resulted in an understanding of the patriarchal age to such an extent that there were))

Ftn. 1 . . . "two German exegetes, who proclaimed that the era of "literary criticism" was closed: Rudolph Kittel, "Die Zukunft der alttestamentlichen Wissenschaft," ZAW, 39 (1921), 85-99; Hugo Gressman, "Die Aufgaben der alttestamentlichen Forschung," ZAW, 42 (1924), 1-33. A few years later, Gressmann re-edited his Altorientalische Texte und Bilder zum Alten Testament, first published in 1909; the second edition (2 vols.; Berlin and Leipzig, 1926-1927) included 678 illustrations, as contrasted with 274 in the first edition, and the texts covered 471 pages.

p. 4 ((Material published re patriarchal age))

Ftn. 8

Henri Cazelles has given an exhaustive bibliography for the years 1946-1960, in "Patriarches," DBS, Vol. 7, cols. 87-90
DBS = Supplément au Dictionnaire de la Bible, ed. F. Vigoroux. Paris: Letouzey, 1961.

Ftn. 10 . . . G. E. Wright, in examining the most recently proposed theses (those of Martin Noth and John Bright, cf. infra, Chapter 1, nn. 17 and 22), describes the current state of the question in "Modern Issues in Biblical Studies: History and the Patriarchs," Expository Times, 71 (1960)