

## Pentateuch

### IV Historical Background

The historical background of the Pentateuch, with the exception of the first eleven chapters of Genesis, which records primitive history beginning with eternity past and continuing on down through the time of Noah, and the last chapter of Deuteronomy which records the death of Moses, is contemporaneous with the time of Moses c. 1450 B.C. The entire work gives evidence that it was indeed produced in the Mosaic era rather than many centuries later as it is widely taught today.

The Pentateuch is tied in with the facts of geography and history as has been demonstrated by the discoveries of archaeology. Yet the historical situation which it describes is a specialized history in the sense that it does not seek to record every fact of past history but only those facts which relate to and are concerned with the history of the redemption of man. It is a history viewed from the standpoint of giving the background and program that God purposed for bringing to pass His provisions in grace for man's salvation. Thus the Pentateuch is history with a destiny in fulfilled prophecy as it centers in the Promised Deliverer of a sin-ruined race. Where there is failure to comprehend the spiritual character and purpose of the Pentateuch there is also a consequent failure to accept its historicity and dependability. The tabernacle in the wilderness becomes fiction when the attitude in the heart toward God becomes marred by sin - the sin of unbelief.