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There are several reasons why I am disturbed by the use of the terms P and J and by statements in support of the ideas that they represent:

1. There has been no movement more effective in destroying Christian faith than the "Higher Criticism." A century ago most of the so-called evangelical denominations in Europe and America accepted the Bible as inerrant and proclaimed its great central doctrines. Today there are leaders in most of those denominations who strongly oppose belief in the inerrancy of Scripture and many of them deny the cardinal doctrines of the Christian faith. No force has been more effective in producing this change than the spread of the Wellhausen theories, which introduced the terms P and J.

2. The terms P and J originated from the Wellhausen theory and represent a denial of the Pentateuch as containing historical truth. The symbol P stands for "Priestly Document" and implies Wellhausen's claim that many parts of the Pentateuch are taken from a long document composed by the Jerusalem priests centuries after the time of Moses (~~if he ever existed~~) in order to enhance their own authority and income. The symbol J is derived from the German representation of YHWH, the personal name of God that is used preeminently in connection with God's dealings with mankind, and particularly in connection with those who would be the special objects of His love and care. This name, represented in the KJV by LORD, occurs frequently in the book of Genesis and almost universally in the other four books of the Pentateuch, which *particularly involve* ~~deal especially with~~ God's dealings <sup>S/</sup> with His covenant people. The