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symbol J represents an alleged document, written before P, but still long after the events that it claimed to describe. The name represented by YHWH actually occurs far more often in the so-called P document than in the J document.

To many readers, use of Wellhausen's symbols would seem to imply that his antichristian reconstruction of Bible history is true. Wellhausen declared that we can learn nothing from the Pentateuch about the time with which it deals, but only about the evolutionary development of the religion of Israel, many centuries after the supposed time of Moses.

3. These terms reflect the continuing use of concepts and attitudes that most secular literary scholars abandoned nearly half a century ago. In fact, many of them have forgotten that their discipline ever wandered into these erroneous bypaths.

The history of science is filled with movements that have flourished for a time and then been abandoned. For centuries it was held that one of the best ways of treating most diseases was to remove blood from one's body. This was done by either making a cut or attaching leeches that would suck out some of the blood. Some historians believe that George Washington's death was due to well-intentioned efforts to relieve him of a minor malady by bleeding him. As recently as 50 years ago advertisements in Philadelphia offered leeches for sale for medical purposes. Today the exact opposite is universally held and blood banks and transfusions are commonplace.

Use of the terms J and P, as well as a number of related state-