

been found, it is my opinion it is better to jettison the method altogether.

Personally I would feel much happier if the section ended on a more positive note than the one that is sounded in its concluding sentence: "we have no reason to reject out of hand the notion that Moses authored the essential core of the Pentateuchal material."

### III. THE CONTEXT p.36

#### A. The Linguistic Context

Of the six contexts listed this is by far the most important. Dr. Waltke's discussion includes many important suggestions for which we should be grateful.

I do not think he is right in saying that before deciding on the author's use of a word it is necessary to decide the date of his material. On page 41 he laments the lack of a good historical grammar of the Hebrew language in English, but I am quite sure that there is not enough material available for anyone to make a trustworthy historical grammar of Hebrew. If this knowledge were necessary to understand the Bible God would have provided us with such material.

On page 42 he points out the difficulty of exact understanding of the meaning of Hebrew tenses. English has a very extensive set of tenses while Hebrew has very few. I do not feel that H. Sperber is right in suggesting that we do away with the terms "perfect" and "imperfect." In spite of occasional difficulties we can say that as a general rule the perfect tense refers to an event in past time, while