

A review is given of the three stages of the O.T. and a review of the critical theory. Ezra canonized the Pentateuch and Josiah canonized the book of Deuteronomy--thus the five books of Moses were made canonical at the time of Ezra. Concerning the 2nd stage there is no uniformity of thought as to who canonized this portion or at what time. Some would say around 300 B.C. and some 200. The third stage came around 100 B.C. Daniel is put down around 168 to 166 B.C. They are most specific as to the time when they think that it was written. Now this theory is very important as to our belief in the O.T. It cuts at the very heart of our belief in the O.T. as being the Word of God. It makes it a human authority instead of the divine authority and it is only the result of a council or strong leader instead of having the divine angle which we so strongly believe. It makes Daniel only a fraud. This theory is not much discussed today but anywhere where serious minded people get together to discuss Christianity it is a vital issue as to where these books came from. Prof. Brunner even denies the Gospel of John as even fitting into the N.T. Any modernist just takes the only liberal view for granted and doesn't bother even to investigate. Let us not use arguments that don't hold water but we must examine the arguments to see which ones really are important and true. It is easy to go off in some high philosophical theory and satisfy the Christian but that is no way to reach the unbeliever. It is important for us to know that there is strong evidence against the modernist.

1. There is no evidence whatsoever that there was a time when these books were canonized by the Jews, which says that the Jews took a group of books and said they would set them apart as the books of the law. There is no evidence of any meeting, of any council or authority that brought about this event. There is no evidence of a Jew coming out and saying this is our Canon and then another Jew coming out 50 years later saying this is our Canon and then show us some other books. There is no positive historical evidence for the fact which the modernist claims. This does not prove that there wasn't any such thing but the burden of proof lies on the modernist to prove. # 16 There is no conclusive evidence that a book was after the time of Ezra or Malachi. Even if a book could be proved as to have been written to be written after this time, that does not prove the critical theory. It would disprove Wm. Henry Green's theory adopted a date in which they arranged all the books that we have. It is easy to yell so loud about a fact that we forget to see whether or not it really proves the point or not that we are so bent on proving.