

time of Jerome, and then only for liturgical purposes--that would be from the 2nd to the 8th century. Then turning to Prof. Bleek and his Intro. of 1860, another German liberal scholar he says what Green says is too positive a form. Ruth and Lamentations had been found with Judges and Jeremiah and had been found thus in Hebrew manuscripts even from early times. There Bleek is giving his conclusion with no proof. The Heb. Jews subsequently after the 2nd cent. A.D. put them among the books of the 3rd class with the other Megaloth with reference to their use and form of worship. Now note the things that might not be so clear: (1) The other Megaloth and (2) their use in form of worship and (3) and for liturgical reasons. The Megaloth literally meansbut it is used specifically.....These are called the 5 Megaloth; they are told what the order of how they should be read in the service; S of S. at the Passover; Ruth at Pentecost; Lamentations ateach one of the books is read at one of these five great feasts and in our Hebrew Bible they are put in the order of ~~our~~ five feast days.

26 That is the theory passed by Bleek. If you want to write it down, you know of course the books in the order because it is part of the Hagiographa, but I would suggest that you write these books down with the feasts at the side of the page and then on the right the names of the festivals at which the books was read--The S. of Solomon; Ruth; Lamentations, Ecclesiast@s, and then Esther. That is the order that we have in our Hebrew Bible. Now note the five festivals--Passover; Pentecost; Fast of the ...of the Month Ab; Feast of Tabernacles; Purim--that is one of the great festivals in the Jewish year today; it is like out 4th of July. Know what the Megaloth are and what their purpose are. With these two German liberal scholars we find that they say that these books were originally in the Prophets and then were put over into the Hagiographa because of their use in liturgical purposes. That was done in the Talmudic period. We have noticed the evidence that leads to that conclusion. In recent years you find that conservative scholars agree unamamously in saying that these German scholars in the last century were correct in their conclusion--that these two books were originally in the ~~Prophets~~ Prophets and now were moved to the Hag. later. Some liberal scholars today question it; many conservative follow Green but Ezra arranged them according to prophetic office and prophetic gift--that theory simply doesn't hold water as the books are arranged today. You cannot say that they are arranged according to the man who wrote them--one of Jer.'s books is in one set and one in the other--that completely demolishes the theory; you must believe that they were originally in the prophets. These conservatives either have to believe Green or give up