

Calvin came to die, he ordered that his body should be buried at night with no one knowing where it was buried. They knew which cemetery, but they did not know in what part of it. He knew that at Roman Catholic cemeteries there was worship around the places where their great men were buried and it was thought that miracles occurred there. During the last nine years of Calvin's life the people of Geneva had idolized him and been ready to do anything he said, and people had come from distant countries to hear his words. Calvin wished to be considered as an interpreter of the Bible and as one who was presenting Christ. He did not wish anybody to take away any of their love for Christ by putting it upon him. Since he was afraid such things might be done by his grave he gave these strict orders. In the case of Moses, the danger would be even greater because Moses had led the people out from Egypt and had been their leader for forty years, divinely directed by Jehovah, the one through whom the Scripture had been written, and it would have been very easy for the people to make a sort of a god out of Moses and to have worshiped at his tomb. He knew that God did not wish such things to happen. Perhaps in order to avoid any misunderstanding later on about the matter, or any deification of him such as saying that he was too good a man to die and be buried and that God simply took him up to Heaven to Himself, or any such idea, Moses wrote the facts in advance exactly the way the Lord told him they were going to happen.

The situation now is to a large extent as it was before 1870, except that now the great bulk of scholars accept the higher criticism. Before that the great bulk of conservatives thought it was a lot of nonsense and paid no attention to it, though a few scholars here and there were vitally interested. Today most scholars say it is true, it is proved, and there are a great number of conservatives, (but comparatively few really scholarly conservatives), who say it is just a bunch of nonsense. You do not get anywhere with that sort of an attitude on the two sides. The great bulk of people today who profess scholarship say that Higher Criticism is proved and that anybody who does not believe it is ignorant. Most of the younger liberal scholars know little about it, only that it is what all scholars believe and therefore must be true. On the other hand, most of the conservative scholars have no idea what the thing really is except that they think it is nonsense. It is easy to ridi-