

one side and all the cases of the use of God on the other side. Here an intelligent, wide-awake person would have said, “Yes, but Dr. MacRae says that the critics say Genesis 1 always uses God and Genesis 2 and 3 always use LORD God, and here are a couple of cases where it is not true.” I found that some of you did not notice it at all. I was greatly grieved about that but more of you did indicate in your papers that in Genesis 3:3 and Genesis 3:5 the name God is used. The serpent says, “Yea, hath God said?”

John Skinner wrote *The International Critical Commentary* on Genesis. Commenting on Genesis 3:3 he says that the use of the name Elohim here is commonly explained by the analogy of other passages of J where the name Jehovah is avoided in conversation with the heathen or when the contrast between the divine and human is reflected upon. But J’s use of it is not uniform and it is doubtful what the true explanation is here. How can the J document use the name God which is a characteristic sign of the P document? Yet right there in the very beginning, in chapter 3, verses 3 and 5, the criterion is broken up by the use of the name God twice, near the beginning of that chapter. That is a very important point, breaking up the beautiful symmetry right at the very beginning, and raising a problem of which Skinner says that the correct answer is uncertain. Here he can admit an explanation which, if adopted, would give a reasonable explanation all the way through. This is very important. I did not ask you to write out these names God and LORD just for an exercise in writing. I would have been pleased if you had noticed it, but I was particularly displeased when two or three did not notice it at all! Now let us see what this fact means.

We were discussing the first argument for Partition. That is the first in point of time, first in point of general effect on those who are not specialists in the field, first in relation to the Bible itself, because it is the one which starts right out at the very beginning. It is notable that in Genesis 1:1 to 2:4 only Elohim is used. From Genesis 2:5 or 2:4 on to chapters 3 and 4 almost exclusively Jehovah is used. So it looks as if you have sections from one, sections from the other. You put these together and you put those together, and you have two documents,