

away with that difficulty, but it does away also with the whole basis on which the criticism began! It was the contrast between Genesis 1 and Genesis 2 that started the whole business!

His viewpoint here is that the S document is a document which was written even after P, instead of being part of the J document, the earliest document of all. It is a distinct document, which was the latest document, after P. And instead of the combining of P with JED being the end of the making of the Pentateuch, the last step was to take JEDP and put into it this S document which included all the sections of Genesis 1-12 except those which are in P. He says the name S comes from Mt. Seir in the region of Edom and that it was actually written by the Edomites and was not written by the Israelites at all, and in some way the Israelites took it over from the Edomites and assimilated it, and that is why he uses the letter S for Mt. Seir. He can explain all the problems – who wrote all the different parts of the Pentateuch. He can tell you what names were used in each of them, and from what different backgrounds they came; he has an answer to everything. The only thing is, we have to wonder where he gets most of them!

I am not sure whether he has attempted to explain that or not, but at least his S sections are comparatively small and unimportant. Of course, he does not say it is just for this reason that he does it; he claims there are also other evidences.

There are three statements which are interpreted by the critics as the giving of the name Jehovah, but in the J document (or in the S document if you are following Pfeiffer), the name is used constantly through three chapters before that. And in Exodus 3 the name Jehovah is used several times before it is given, so you have to take them out and say they are the work of the redactor.

That should raise a question in our minds. Evidently they were not understood that way in these two cases. Then, is there some different way of understanding Exodus 6, or does Exodus 6 sharply contradict the whole J document, as it does if Exodus 6:3 is saying that the name Jehovah was not given until that time?