

priesthood. It was written, they say, in order to confine the priesthood to one group who call themselves the sons of Aaron – something never previously heard of. It is a document to exalt their particular functions and also to give very minute and detailed regulations. It shows an advance in complexity over the previous documents, even though in some ways it shows degeneration, with its precise regulations of worship. Still later, according to the critics, this P document is combined with JED to make the complete Pentateuch.

The development theory claims that there is definite evidence as to which came first, and that they show growth and development. In many ways this claim of progress is quite tenuous, but they claim that it is very definite in what it requires about the place of sacrifice and the persons who conduct the sacrifice. Much of this is brought out in Gray and in Carpenter. I asked you, as you do the assignments in Gray and Carpenter, particularly to stress what they say about the place and persons of sacrifice. I do not mean only who sacrificed and where they sacrificed, but what other effects in the documents inevitably followed according to the critics, from the fact that these changes were made in these particular laws. That was brought out very clearly by both Gray and Carpenter, and that is why I asked you to stress it, although, of course, I want you to master all that is said in the few pages that I assigned.

### ***B. The Argument From Continuous Narratives***

If this argument could be proved to be correct, it would be one of the strongest arguments for the Higher Criticism.

The Criticism began with the claim that the book of Genesis was produced by combining sections from two documents which could be distinguished by their use of differing names for God. This claim would be greatly strengthened if it could be shown that after the documents had been separated from one another by the use of this criterion each of them could be read continuously as a complete story without assuming any fact or idea contained in one or more of the other alleged documents. If this could be shown to be a fact, it would