

For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me, for he wrote of me, but if ye believed not his writings, how shall ye believe my word?" How could Jesus say that if He knew that Moses never had written it at all?

Many of the higher critics have believed that Moses never wrote anything. They used to even believe that writing was unknown at that time. Now of course that is quite given up, because we have much writing from before the time of Moses. "If ye do not believe his writing, how shall ye believe my word?" The attitude of the Lord Jesus Christ is very clear on this point, and therefore we can't say: "Well, let's believe in Christ, be safe in Him, but what difference does it make who wrote the Pentateuch?" If Jesus did not know what He was talking about, how can we be safe through believing in Him? The foundation of our religion is at stake in the question of whether Moses wrote the Pentateuch.

Now I do not mean we should go out to the unbeliever and try to convince him Moses wrote the Pentateuch, as a way of bringing him to the Lord. To be saved, a man needs to see himself as a sinner and to see Jesus Christ as the all-sufficient Saviour -- not to be convinced of the authorship of the Pentateuch. But after a man becomes a Christian then he needs to know where to get his knowledge of Christian beliefs. And if he is a Christian he will want to follow the Lord Jesus Christ and therefore will know this to be a fact, that Moses wrote the Pentateuch, because Jesus explicitly set the seal of His approval upon it. So we will see more and more as we go on that it is not just a question as to who wrote the Pentateuch, but is the Pentateuch true? You cannot hold the higher criticism and believe that the Pentateuch is true, you can not do that. But it centers around this question of the authorship. Is it written by one