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THE TESTIMONY OF THE BIBLE

TO THE AUTHORSHIP AND HISTORICITY OF THE PENTATEUCH

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It shall be the object of this paper to survey briefly the evidence presented by the Bible regarding the authorship and historicity of the Pentateuch. It is very important for us to know just what claims the Bible makes.

It is not the theme of this paper to discuss the unity of the Pentateuch. Throughout the Bible it seems to be so regarded. There are three principal groups of legislation, each introduced by an historical section. The entire law is preceded by an historical portion, Gen.1 to Exod.19. Without it the legislation is an enigma. With it the whole makes a proper foundation for the national life of Israel. In this paper we shall consider the Pentateuch as one.

Our brief survey shall be divided into four heads: I. What the Pentateuch says about its own authorship. II. The testimony of the rest of the Old Testament to the Pentateuch. III. The testimony of the New Testament to the Pentateuch.

I. What the Pentateuch says about its authorship.

Before we have read very far in the account of the work of Moses in leading the Children of Israel out of Egypt, we find two declarations of a command to him by the Lord to write:

Ex.17:14--And the LORD said unto Moses, Write this for a