

John Knox Press. I have already read from Volume I, Introduction to the Bible. Volume II on the Book of Genesis espouses the higher critical view of the Bible. The first page states this concerning Adam and Eve;

"Some of the stories in the early chapters of Genesis were originally aetiological; that is they tried to explain some of the persistent and common questions of life. For instance the creation of Eve out of Adam's rib explains the strong sexual attraction of men and women. The Divine curse upon the serpent, the woman and the man explains mankind inherent hatred of snakes, the suffering of child-birth, and the fact that man has to work so hard to eek out his livelihood from the hostile soil. The Cain and Abel story probably reflects the ancient feuding that went on between the Agricultural and Nomadic ways of life."

Another quotation from page 13;

"Fortunately for us, the writer in true oriental fashion has clothed his discussion of some of the most profound theological problems in a language of such simplicity and symbolic imagery that even a child can understand it."

Another example of study literature from the John Knox Press is the book entitles, The Bible and Christian Teachings by Holmes Rolston on pages 29 and 30 the following is stated:

"The integrity of the Bible is not tied up with the literal acceptance of every miraculous story that is found in it. As we considered the human element in the making of the Scriptures we must face the presence of what seemed to be minor contradictions are to be found in the text of the Scripture which we now have."

Page 34 states,

"No man is more profoundly insecure than the man who has tied his sense of the authority of the Bible to the assertion of its inerrancy in every detail."

A popular layman's series is the Layman's Theological Library, published by the Westminster Press of Philadelphia which finds its way into the Northern Presbyterian Churches. The Volume entitled, Understanding the Bible by Fred J. Dendeaux makes statements like this on page 51:

"Who was Abraham? Abraham is actually a name that must be put in quotation marks. We cannot be sure of his identity."

On page 27,

"We must try to know for instance, whether the writer is telling us of an event that he has witnessed or that he is trying to get at the meaning behind the event. Thus not all events really happen."

Many similar volumes can be quoted from the major denominations in the N.C.C. and W.C.C. which reveal the same liberal teaching. One of the basic causes for the near complete apostasy of the ecumenical organization is the degeneration of the Seminaries which has taken place during the past 50 years or so while the evangelical world was asleep or indifferent. Somehow it seems that the seminaries have escaped criticism from the man in the pew and yet it was the funds and the support from congregational members that made the growth of liberalism possible. With the major seminaries now fallen and