

Thus the school of Wolf presented its theories regarding secular literature. These theories came to be widely adopted and people were slow about applying them to the Bible. Then they began applying them to the Bible. Then they came to see the approach was wrong, and it has been almost entirely given up regarding secular literature, but regarding the Bible it is today taught in the great bulk of universities of the world wherever anything is taught about the Bible, and in most theological seminaries that are over 40 years ~~xx~~ old.

It is taught as established proof that these theories are the way the different parts of the Bible came together. The effect upon our church is simply unimaginable because young man after young man believing the Bible and wanting to go out and preach the truth has gone into seminary and given these theories saying Moses didn't write the Pentateuch, Luke didn't write Luke, John didn't write John. All these were written at a later time applying the outmoded attitude of the Wolf school to the Bible and giving it as the product of scholarly research!

Today these are beginning to be taught to the laity in our churches.=just within the last two or three years much more than ever before. Just within the last 2 or 3 years. They have been taught to the students in the seminaries for the last 40 years but they are beginning to come out in S.S. literature, they are beginning to come out in popular books.

Last Christmas many people were thrilled when they saw that LIFE magazine got out a special double edition on the Bible. You picked it up and saw the beautiful pictures. It was a thrill to think of this beautiful magazine devoted to the Bible! But what was your disappointment when you opened it and began to read. I don't think most people quite realize the way the movements cross in that issue of LIFE. Because in the first issue of LIFE it is written by men who had adopted the Wellhausen theory, had accepted all this higher critical denial and then had begun to find proofs from archaeology showing errors in this whole approach.

So in the first part of LIFE you find the higher critical theory taken for granted as being true, then you find an attempt made to prove that nevertheless the books are dependable in many ways. So it is a step beyond the higher criticism back to acceptance of reliability of the Word of God. Not a big step. So as I looked at that part of this issue I thought, this is going to have two effects. The great mass of people who know nothing about higher criticism when they look at the first third of this issue of LIFE are going to find their faith in the Bible shaken because it takes the higher critical theory and presents them as fact.

But the little group of people that have accepted the higher criticism as established truth and know something about it, when they look at this are they going to have their faith in the higher criticism somewhat shaken because they'll find that some of its strongest positions are denied here, in this first third. But when you go on to the next of the issue of LIFE, you find there it takes the higher critical position regarding the NT and presents it as