

Tues. eve. #4

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question. You say, "Compare other garden ~~xx~~ stories from pagan mythology with this story." And immediately you say, "Well, what are the similarities? what are the differences?" And your mind makes the jump over here of assuming they exist. And it is one of the cleverest ways of bringing people to a conclusion - is not to give it directly, but to ask a question that implies it. And all these people were convinced there are other garden stories, but they couldn't agree on what they were; ~~xx~~ And when they told us what they were, to(?) (or?) what they thought they were, there was no similarity; they weren't garden stories, and they weren't like Genesis 3. But you see how it puts Genesis 3 right into the category of an old mythological story.

Another of the questions was: "Give the textual and linguistic evidence for the Multi-documentary Theory." Well, that one I tried to get them to guess. And I couldn't get them to give any evidence; because there isn't any. There is no evidence for it. But, "give the evidence" - it implies that there is such ~~evidence~~ evidence. Actually, these books rested on authority. One professor ~~there said,~~ "This is the result of the careful research of scholars during the last 50 years. The fact is, the theory, as ~~taught~~, today, is exactly like Wellhausen gave it 80 years ago. And there's not a single bit of arduous research by scholars in the last 50 years that has contributed to the theory in any way. Another of the questions that was asked implied various other things ~~this way~~ this way about the unreliability of the early part of the Bible. And I think it is important that we examine the grounds of arguing. Why do we believe that this book did not come together through an artificial, very involved, process like this higher critical theory; there is nothing similar to it in what is considered to be true of any other literature anywhere. A hundred years ago something similar was believed about Homer, but not nearly as complex, and that has been given up by practically all scholars.

What are the grounds of our actual attitude toward the Bible? Well, we believe that God is. We believe that God can speak if he chooses, and the Bible says that He has spoken. "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake