

with the JEDP hypothesis.  
~~a single perspective.~~

There is one area among <sup>to which</sup> many others <sup>where</sup> which the <sup>author</sup> contributors would have liked to <sup>have directed</sup> place greater <sup>attention</sup> emphasis ~~in these essays.~~ However, ~~the tentativeness of the conclusions coupled with the contributors' own lack of sufficient knowledge of the field prevented them.~~ This is the vast field of ~~ancient~~ Near Eastern languages and literatures. Since the Old Testament was composed over an extensive period of time thousands of years ago, a modern reader must become ~~properly~~ aware of <sup>Israelite</sup> another culture and ~~its~~ <sup>in order</sup> milieu <sup>and understand</sup> to appreciate <sup>and understand</sup> its literature; it is all too easy to read meanings from our own culture into that of another. Much light has already been thrown upon the peculiarities and characteristics of Hebrew literature by the rapidly accumulating archaeological and linguistic data. ~~Already new views are being tried, but there still remains a relative lack of agreement among scholars in this area;~~ <sup>Although</sup> thus, the <sup>author</sup> contributors have <sup>s</sup> only <sup>been able to make</sup> made passing reference to various aspects of <sup>this</sup> new knowledge as it impinges upon the documentary hypothesis. <sup>it</sup> is hoped that the reader will be investigating this area <sup>further</sup> for himself.

~~The stimulations and ideas which have carried this project forward are due in no small measure to Dr. Allan A. MacRae, President and Professor of Old Testament at Faith Theological Seminary in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania. The contributors all attended his classes in Introduction to the Pentateuch, and the editor also had the privilege of assisting Dr. MacRae in his research during the summer months. Nevertheless, the final content and arrangement of the materials was solely the decision of the contributors.~~