

*Introduction*  
INTRODUCTION

Many ~~a theory~~ <sup>a hypothesis</sup> has been widely accepted at one time, ~~and has~~ <sup>but later</sup> ~~been~~ <sup>been</sup> ~~later have been~~ overturned and possibly replaced by a more satisfactory <sup>one</sup> theory. For instance, the geocentric ~~or Ptolemaic~~ theory that the ~~sun, stars, and planets~~ <sup>sun, stars, and planets</sup> ~~orbit~~ <sup>orbit</sup> around the earth was held as <sup>well-</sup> established fact for a long time; ~~it~~ <sup>it</sup> was finally proven false in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries with the advent of modern astronomical observation and methodology. ~~The situation hasn't really changed~~ Today, the mere mention of the Quantum Theory of the atom and Einstein's Theory of Relativity indicate the revolutionary changes which are taking place in man's view of the universe. It is <sup>generally true</sup> ~~always the case~~ that the further accumulation of data <sup>and careful examination</sup> ~~will~~ <sup>mental</sup> interact with our models, sometimes requiring the total abandonment of a previously accepted theory.

One example of a theory which is widely publicized today, but which lacks solid support concerns the ~~structure and formation~~ of the <sup>Pentateuch</sup> ~~(the first five books of the Bible (also called the Pentateuch))~~ <sup>(Old Testament)</sup>. Since the publication of Julius Wellhausen's Geschichte Israels I <sup>(in German)</sup> in 1878, it has become commonplace to read and hear that the Pentateuch came into existence by an extremely complex process of interweaving documents <sup>over almost half a millennium.</sup> ~~written over almost half a millennium.~~

† Samuel Rolles Driver's Introduction to the Literature of the Old Testament (1891) popularized Wellhausen's <sup>Anti-</sup> ~~documentary~~ <sup>theory</sup> ~~Theory~~ in the English-speaking world. Its recent republication <sup>Cleveland and New York:</sup> (The World Publishing Company,

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