

The Time Line of the Bible, or The Myth of J, E, and P

Within the last three years the Sunday School lessons of a number of denominations have contained articles with such titles as "The Time Line of the Bible." There has often been a chart attached showing what is indicated as J, as having been written at some time between ~~1050~~ 1050 B.C. and 850 B.C. A century or more later the chart indicates ~~and~~ a document as having been written, which it calls ~~XXX~~ "E." A line down along the time chart shows each of these documents existing alone for a time, and then ~~combining~~ combined into what is designated as JE. Quite distinct from this there is generally indicated ~~at=about=650=B.C.~~ somewhat after 650 B.C. a line with the name "D.". After a time this is united with ~~JE~~ J and E. Eventually a new line is indicated as beginning, which is called ~~XXX~~ "P"; and at some time after 500 B.C. this line is merged into the already ~~combined~~ combined work entitled ~~JE~~ "JED," thus ~~producing~~ allegedly producing the first few books of the Bible.

In every field of human thought, ideas sometimes become widely accepted and then after a time are proven to be quite without foundation, and this is the case with this alleged Time Line, ~~Time Line~~ "Time Line."

The fact is that there is no evidence whatever that any such document as J, E or P ever existed as a separate entity. There is no evidence of such an editorial work having occurred ~~as~~ in ancient Israel as would have resulted in combining these documents along the line lines presented in the charts ~~referred to~~ referred to. No such document, and no identifiable portion of such a document from ancient times has ever been discovered, nor has there come to light any ancient reference to any such document or any such editorial work combination of documents.