

Otwell, John H., I Will Be Your God, 1967

p. 38 First, biblical criticism has discovered that every book in the Old Testament is the work of many authors. This is true even of the small books like Ruth or Jonah, although it isn't as much a problem there as in larger books. For the larger books,, it is very importnat always to remember that these works were written by several persons. In some cases, the work of a single author extends through parts of several books.

pp. 38-39 What constitutes a book?

A book might be a convenient block of material, having several authors and discussing several kinds of subjects but being of a standard length.

((The books of the O.T. are of a standard length - PAGES

	Hebrew Bible	English Bible
Isaiah	93	74
Jeremiah	107/	82
Ezekiel	84	115
Book of the Twelve	82	115

Appears that there is a deliberate attempt to make the four great collections of prophetic sayings approximately the same length. May be that the present division of the O.T. into "books" was determined more by convenience in handling than by authorship. None of this need disturb us. If we want to know who wrote what, we use literary criticism.))

p. 39 Our second general conclusion about the Old Testament is that most of the collections of material in it cluster around a core of very old cultic traditions or the work of a giant who founded either a movement or a school. We will see shortly that old cultic traditions form the core of the Pentateuch.

p. 40 ((The third general conclusion is that the O.T. deals with one question: how God has dealt with man in man's daily life.))

Footnotes

pp. 40-42 ((Otwell says that S. R. Driver's LOT is "one of the most widely respected examples of the use of literary criticism". He says also to consult J. E. Carpenter's Composition of the Hexateuch for an explanation of the method and for lists of words and phrases associated with different sources found in the Hexateuch.