

Kraeling (cont'd)

except for the emphasis on "truths" or on "providence" is now being invoked more fully by O.T. scholars, in so far as they are Christian churchmen.

Thus That the trail thus blazed by Diestel was not followed sooner was partly due to the fact that men's minds became focused on the objective and the material side of life, beginning with the 'seventies, and that this spirit, carried over into the field of biblical studies, resulted in their increasing historization and secularization.

- p. 89biblical criticism had arisen on the Continent in emulation of the critical method developed in the study of the Greek and Roman classics. Homeric criticism found a hearing in England and thus paved the way for the application of similar principles to the biblical literature.
- p. 90 Colenso's work on the Pentateuch Here for the first time the Anglican fold was actually invaded by the continental type of higher criticism.
- p.94the movement symbolized by Wellhausen applied methods that had been productive of great results in the study of classical and other literatures to the O.T. literature. As a result, there came into being an insight into the fact that the Hebrew religion had undergone a historical development. It matters little, as we now see it, that the development is not one of such steady upward evolution as was first thought. It is enough to say that there was flux and change, and that it was affected by historical circumstances, spiritual movements, as well as by the actions and influence of individuals. This history has not yet been adequately written up and probably never can be because of the fragmentary information at our disposal. We must divine more than we can see. The materials we have all fit somewhere into a picture puzzle, but the trouble is that a great number of pieces are missing which, if we had them, would make the picture clear and meaningful. But the mere circumstance that scholarship, from Wellhausen on, established the fact of religious change in Hebrew history and discerned important aspects of it, made forever impossible the belief on the part of the intelligent portion of humanity that the O.T. writings were a supernatural communication of the Holy Spirit.