

Critical Arguments for Late Date of Deuteronomy

1. The laws of Deuteronomy belong to an age later than that of Moses
 - a. Law of tithes Driver, LOT, 82-83
 - b. Treatment of bondslaves
 - c. Distinction between priests and common Levites; priestly duties
In Deut. all priests are Lev. & visa versa; not so in J & E (GWA, 29)
 - d. Levitical cities
 - e. Laws relating to the firstlings of oxen and sheep
 - f. Law respecting the place of sacrifice Driver, ICC, xliii
Establishment of a central sanctuary Wellhausen, 33-34
Deut. forbids sac. worship except at one central sanct. (G&H, 144-145)
Laws in J & E appear to know nothing of such a prohib. (GWA, 29)
2. Alleged historical discrepancies Driver, ICC, xxxv-xxxvi
 - a. The plan of appointing judges to assist Moses
 - b. The mission of the spies
 - c. Jehovah's anger against Moses and the prohibition to enter Canaan
 - d. 38 years spent at Kadesh or away from Kadesh
 - e. Moses' fasting in the mount
 - f. Construction of ark of acacia-wood before or after ascending the mount
 - ~~g. Use of "at that time" and "unto this day"~~
 - g. Contents presuppose a state ruled over by a king (Kuhl, 84)
3. Incidental Expressions
 - a. Use of phrase "beyond Jordan" suggests the writer lived in Western Palestine which Moses never did
 - b. Use of "unto this day" and "at that time"
3. Literary style
 - a. Style of Dt. "entirely unlike that of P", and "very dissimilar to the normal style of JE" Driver, ICC, lxxvii
 - b. Particular words or forms alleged to harmonize with a date in the 7th cent., B.C. Driver, ICC, xc ; B. W. Anderson, 311
"Although the style belongs to the Deuteronomic period, however, the content is much older." (B.W.Anderson, p. 311)