

published the four of them which have thus been preserved.

Now of course there have been frauds and fables in literature but usually it is possible to detect them. There were some writings which purported to tell of a donation by Constantine to the Bishop of Rome. These writings were much read in the Middle Ages. They told how Constantine had given Italy to the Bishop of Rome--the Emperor Constantine at about 325 A.D. They told--there were some writings of the Bishop of Rome of that day, who was later called Pope Sylvester and they called them the Decretals of Sylvester in which they give various rules for the church as a whole and Sylvester was supposed to have written them.

Before the Reformation a papal secretary who was a great literary scholar proved that these were forgeries, that they were frauds, that they came from at least 500 years after the time of Constantine and Sylvester. He proved that and it was recognized by all scholars since that day.

Frauds like this, forgeries it is usually not difficult with careful study to prove. But in so many cases ancient writings have been proved to be authentic that today the attitude of the school of Wolff is completely given up with except in relation to the Bible. We recognize there are frauds, there are fakes, but the attitude is when we discover an ancient writing we take it as true unless we have proof it is false. Instead of as Wolff's school did, taking it as false unless you find proof it is true.

I was reading recently a writing of the Odyssey and Illiad. In the Introduction the British Scholar said, When in the last 1890's I was studying in school, I was taught that the Illiad and Odyssey were made up of the writings of a lot of different writers all fitted together, but now we know how utterly absurd that is. He said, I'm not ready to declare definitely the two were written by one man. Maybe the Odyssey was written by a woman and the Illiad by a man. I can't say for sure about that. But this I'm ready to say that each of them is a great literary work which shows a unity from beginning to end and to think that 15 or 20 different people could have written it is absolutely impossible.

About 30 years ago, I picked up the Cambridge Ancient History published by Cambridge U. at that time and it was so interesting to read in the Introduction the statement: Readers of this ~~introduction~~ ancient history will be surprised to find that we have given up the widespread idea that the writings of Homer were by different writers and we believe that they are substantially a unit whether there was a Homer or not that at least there was one great mind that composed these writings are reliable for many aspects of ancient history. On the other hand, they said, readers of the Cambridge Ancient History will be equally surprised to find that we have given up the idea that Moses wrote the first five books of Moses and we have accepted the idea that the parts of them are written by many writers long after the time of Moses and fit together in accordance with the Graf-Wellhausen theory!