

A great number of ~~scholarly~~ semi-scholarly or scholarly books have been published in the last twenty years. During the past twenty years a great number of scholarly or semi-scholarly books have appeared, many of them with such ~~ix~~ titles as Understanding the Old Testament, Interpreting the Old Testament, or Understanding the New Testament. Some of these books boast of being ~~x~~ used as textbooks in dozens or even hundreds of colleges. most of them present as established fact the divisive theories that attribute the Pentateuch to the work of different writers designated as J, E, D, and P, writing hundreds of years apart, and ^{dogmatically} present similar theories for the Old Testament and also for ~~the New Testament~~ many of the books of the New Testament.

Rarely does one find in these books any mention of the Higher Criticism. Fifty years ago there was widespread discussion as to whether the Higher Criticism is true. Today these books simply present the conclusions of the Higher Criticism as fact, and ~~drop the term~~ as a rule drop the term altogether.

It is interesting to notice that general books on historical and literary criticism also have ceased to use the ^{term} word "Higher Criticism." ~~Fifty~~ Fifty years ago it was widely said that the term "Higher Criticism" was simply a well-recognized and important section of literary study, and that anyone who was interested in the date or authenticity of a book was per se a higher critic. Today the term is no longer used in this sense. Instead it is ~~mentioned=either=in=a=slighting=way,=or=if=mentioned=at=all,=either=in=a~~ , if at all, ~~slighting xxxxxx~~ if mentioned/~~at all~~, either in a slighting way, or as a rather questionable type of approach, ~~xxx~~ or as an ~~xxx~~ approach which is practically which is confined to Biblical materials.

All this illustrates the fact that the teaching which is today so widespread in the field of Biblical study, is actually a survival of an approach that was widely prevalent during two centuries in the general field