

most important ~~■~~ deal with criticism rather than interpretation. That is they deal with questions of the genuineness, the authenticity of the Bible, the defense of it from attacks. ~~That~~ Thus many things mentioned in the Bible of which we had no proof before that they ever actually existed, we have found the statements in these Mesopotamian material that show from another angle that the same thing actually existed.

Now of course often it is written from a different angle. There is a little different viewpoint, but that makes it all the better as evidence of it. So as evidence of the authenticity, of the actual existence of things in the Bible. There are many things people used to say are simply fables or myths or legends that they had evidence from the cuneiform sources that they actually were. So it is of great value from that viewpoint.

Then of course it has been reversed, you might say. F. Delitzsch in Berlin - he was a son of the great Bible commentator Franz Delitzsch. Franz was a very fine Christian man, and his commentaries are very valuable on the OT. But his son Frederick turned into a complete modernist, and began making a strong argument for the higher criticism, for the Graf-Welhausen theory and his father felt he finally had to examine it in order to answer his son's arguments. He found that the material was not then available to answer the arguments properly, so he accepted the higher criticism to quite an extent in his latter days. The he said he always would to the end of his life have great doubts that the criticism was true because he was a great lover of the Bible. But his son after that attack went much further in his unbelief, and Frederick Delitzsch was asked to give a lecture in Berlin in 1903 on the matter of the discoveries in Babylon and their importance. It was a lecture meeting that had great prominence. It was done in order to raise money and interest for the German excavations at Babylon.