

read the lessons, the Litany, or preach the sermon, and many other things of the kind. How many more serious questions must naturally have arisen concerning the ritual of sacrifice, involving, as it did, so much manual work! Those things were originally decided, it is probable, by local custom. When religious worship had become centralized at Jerusalem they would probably be settled authoritatively by the body of priests, who are likely to have followed in the main the traditions of the old sanctuary of Jerusalem. (7) But when the line of tradition was broken by the Exile the need would have arisen for more elaborate directions, and we do actually find the prophet Ezekiel framing a sort of manual of ritual, though in some respects ideal and visionary (chs. 40-48). (8) But the troubles and disturbances which followed upon the Restoration must have made it difficult to establish any complete system of worship, and we do not hear of any complete religious organization till the time of Ezra. It would probably then be near the truth to say that P is the result of the religious movement which began with Ezekiel in Babylon, and found its completion with Ezra. Just as the book of the Law found in the house of J<sup>n</sup> in Josiah's reign was D, or the nucleus of D, so it is likely that the law book read by Ezra, Neh 8, was P, or the essential part of P. It is important to observe that the legal ordinances referred to in Neh are to be found in P rather than in D; for example, the custom of dwelling in booths, 8<sup>13-15</sup>.

**3. JE. The Jahwistic and Elohistic Sources.—**

A. When we have taken away from the Hexateuch all the passages which can with a fair degree of probability be assigned to D, or P, we find that the remainder forms a fairly complete and homogeneous whole, giving us, by a succession of narratives more or less connected, an outline of Jewish history from the Creation to the Settlement in Palestine, in fact covering, speaking generally, the same ground as P. This remainder we might have regarded as one literary source, were it not that a difference of authorship is discovered by the use of *Elohim* and *J<sup>n</sup>* in Gn-Ex 3 (see above, ii. D), which enables us to distinguish at once a certain number of sections as belonging to J and E respectively. Thus to J belong 2<sup>4b-4<sup>th</sup></sup> 5<sup>20</sup> 6<sup>1-4</sup> 7-8 (ptly.) 9<sup>20-27</sup> 10<sup>1-10</sup> 11<sup>1-9</sup> 12<sup>1-2</sup> 13<sup>1-5</sup> 16<sup>1-11a</sup> 12<sup>10-15</sup> 15 (with some mixture perhaps of E), 16<sup>10-2</sup> 4-14 18, 19<sup>1-23</sup> 22<sup>20-24</sup> (unless the insertion of a reviser) 24, 28<sup>12-16</sup> 38, 39. To E we may with equal certainty assign 20<sup>1-17</sup> 21<sup>6-23</sup> 22<sup>1-12</sup> 23<sup>10-12</sup> 31<sup>4-17a</sup> 19<sup>1-4</sup> 31<sup>1</sup> 32<sup>2</sup> 35<sup>1-5</sup> 40-42, 45 (almost entirely) 46<sup>1-4</sup> 48<sup>1</sup> 2, 8-22 50<sup>13-22</sup>. But in other sections either the name of God seldom occurs, or the names at first sight seem used indifferently, the sections being in the latter case generally compounded, as a close examination shows of both sources. After Exodus, though we can readily see that both sources still continue, the distinction becomes more difficult, because though E, unlike P, still uses the name *Elohim* sometimes *J<sup>n</sup>* is more generally used; but even here the occasional use of *Elohim* is often helpful in discovering E sections. The mixture of divine names in Ex 3 sometimes arises from the fact that E purposely uses the name *J<sup>n</sup>* and vice versa. Thus P, of necessity used the name *J<sup>n</sup>* in Ex 3<sup>14</sup> itself, but also in tin 2<sup>2</sup>, where the name has a peculiar emphasis, the point being that Jacob promises to worship his country's God even in a strange land; the name is, however, sometimes assigned to a reviser. This is probably the case also with Gn 22<sup>14</sup>, unless it be actually a Jahwistic passage inserted in the E story. On the other hand, *Elohim* is sometimes used by J: (1) When God is spoken of by those not in covenant with *J<sup>n</sup>*, as by Adam and Eve before the time of

Seth, when men began to call on the name of *J<sup>n</sup>* (Gn 4<sup>26</sup>), and by the serpent (Gn 3<sup>7</sup> 4<sup>1</sup> etc.). (2) When emphasis is laid on God's abstract nature, especially in contrast to man, (Gn 22<sup>1</sup> 22<sup>14</sup> (see below, iii. 3. B)). (3) In the patriarchal stories when with a following word is implied deification of God, as 'God of Abraham' (Gn 24<sup>7</sup> 26<sup>24</sup> etc.).

B. The separation of J and E in various passages, and those especially in which the source of them is for any of the reasons given an insufficient criterion, as in the later books of the Hexateuch, is a matter of considerable difficulty there being no characters of J or E so general as to enable us (as we could with D and P) to assign the sections in which they occur to either source; but it can in most cases be decided with a fair degree of certainty. Moreover the more the passages which can be definitely assigned to one source or the other, the easier the task becomes, because we obtain a larger number of criteria by which to recognize either source. But in spite of the labours of critics there still remains a considerable number of passages in which the division of sources is very uncertain. There is, too, always a certain danger of using as criteria comparatively rare words or phrases, which possibly by accident happen to occur once or twice in one source or the other. The reasonings by which the critical results are obtained are very complicated. They are chiefly those suggested by breaks in the narrative, points of contact, whether by continuity of language or connexion of subject, with known P or J fragments, and the like. Such arguments are often more trustworthy than those derived from vocabulary. We can make this clearer by analyzing Gn 32 as an example. Here there is no P passage, and the whole certainly belongs to JE. Vv. 1 and 2 (Heb. 2-3, and so on with the other verses) are obviously the conclusion of an E section (31<sup>1</sup>-32<sup>2</sup>), the name *Elohim* being used throughout and constantly, though the section has no P characteristics. It will be seen on examination that vv. 3-12 belong to J. For (1) there is no apparent continuity between vv. 3 and 4. (2) On the other hand, vv. 3-12a form a narrative continuous in itself without any obvious breaks, and the same is true of vv. 12b-21. (3) Vv. 3-12a contain parallels, differing in detail, both with the preceding and the following paragraphs, and therefore belong to a different source from either. Thus v. 10c gives a different explanation of Mahanaim from that given in v. 2, and in vv. 12b-21 Jacob is (a) again described as dividing his property in view of the coming of Esau, but (b) differently, each drove by itself, vv. 16, 17, instead of the whole into two, v. 2, and (c) with a different purpose, in order to propitiate his brother by degrees with an accumulation of peace-offerings, vv. 17-20, not that one might escape if Esau attacked the other, as in v. 2, 'the property is differently divided, goats being added slaves—male and female, camels or other such slaves mentioned as a part of the property present, but as being a part of it, as in v. 2, with 5<sup>20</sup> 'Esau's men' a separate party, etc. (4) Again v. 21c and 22c have points of contact with v. 2, and v. 21c and P are very closely related. Thus the persistence of *J<sup>n</sup>* in v. 21c is very closely with *J<sup>n</sup>* in v. 2, though the account of the journey to a place where divided was wealth by Esau, 22<sup>1</sup> 22<sup>14</sup> and 22<sup>20</sup> is ascribed to E's account, which describes the wealth revealed by God in a dream, 31<sup>1</sup> 31<sup>24</sup> and 32<sup>1</sup>, as so explained by Jacob in the latter passage is marked as E's by the occurrence of *Elohim*. Again, 32<sup>2</sup> refers to 31<sup>1</sup> as evident in the passage. So far all is clear, but v. 22<sup>2</sup> 22<sup>3</sup> has the appearance of a complete and unmixt passage, there is some