

"Male and female" (rather than "a man and his wife") is said to be a typical P phrase. In Genesis 1.27 and 5.2 "male and female" are found in the sections given to P. However, in 7.3, 9 when this phrase is found in a J section, we are told that the Redactor did this in order to bring the passage into harmony with P. So the alleged criteria is not consistently carried through. Every time the critics say that a Redactor has done something they weaken the evidence for their argument. When you have a Redactor who can make changes whenever he chooses, you do not have much evidence left that the alleged document really has a distinct style.

Actually the beginning of this whole matter of style in the critical analysis of the Scriptures began with the enumerative style found in the first chapter of Genesis together with the fact that the name Elohim was used throughout this section. On the other hand, Gen. 2.4-4.26 had a beautiful narrative style and had none of the repetitions and enumerations of the first chapter. So criticism began with two documents: J and P. Subsequently any word found in the first chapter of Genesis was regarded as a distinctive P word, and any word found in Genesis 2.4-4.26 was considered a distinctive word of J. When a person takes every word in these chapters and checks it through in the documents into which the critics have divided the Pentateuch, he finds that the bulk of the words are naturally used in both the J document and the P document. After all the use of a different word is not very good evidence for a different writer because anybody can use a different word.

Driver in his LOT, p. 14 in discussing the account of the Flood says "the main narrative is that of P, which has been enlarged by the addition of elements derived from J: here, however, these elements form a tolerably complete narrative, though there are omissions . . ." Driver charts Gen. 7.1-5, 7-10 "(in the main)" as belonging to J. However, he has a footnote that reads: "For v. 7-9 include two or three expressions ('Two and two', 'male and female,' 'God') . . . Borrowed by