

an unbroken history reaching back to early Israelite times, and continuing until the Exile and beyond." (Genesis, p.xxvi) . It is difficult to find anyone who holds that P is an individual. Rather P is a priestly school who gathered material, wrote it up and put it together. But how can you claim to have one distinctive style when there are a lot of people entering into it?

Three months before President Johnson made one of his state of the union speeches he assigned 24 writers to write him suggested speeches for that message. These 24 writers each wrote a speech and they got together and discussed and compared their speeches. Then they decided which speech they liked the best and which rated second best. They worked on these and brought them to the President and decided which of the two he liked best and they went over that and made some changes. But when the President spoke he gave a composite speech. Let us suppose that out of the 24 writers there were two or three who did the greater part of the writing. Could any of us without knowing those writers or ever having heard of them take a section out and say this part was written by Tom Smith and this part by Bill Jones?

A person's style is made up of a good many different things and it is always in a state of flux. It is a constant mixture of the different influences that come to bear upon a person. Consequently to select things out of one composite document and set them over against things taken out of another part of the same composite document without having a definite pattern as to what <sup>are</sup> the styles of each writer contained in it is a very difficult thing to do.

V As regards J and E there is much disagreement among critical scholars.

It is important to remember that in the original critical theory there was a definite style difference between E and J so that one could tell what was the style of each of them. For some fifty years from 1825-75 the overwhelming mass of critics were convinced that there was a great foundational writing, the Elohist, and that J was a supplement. Ever since Hupfeld the style of J and E