June 23, 1966

Dr. G. Ernest Wright Harvard Divinity School Harvard University Cambridge, Massachusetts

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Dear Dr. Wright;

It was a real pleasure to see you again after so many years, and also to hear your discussion of various subjects.

It was interesting to me to hear your strong denunciation of the Graf-Wellhausen theory and your declaration that it is "dead dodo." Many books that have been published or reprinted during the last ten years will give wide circles of readers the opposite impression. While the theory may be dead, so far as the ideas of scholars are concerned, it still exerts a tremendous influence. I wish that those remaining vestiges of it which are still so potent, such as the unprovable idea that J, E and P ever existed as separate documents, could be forever disposed of. I know of no arguments for their actual existence that seem to me to have any real weight.

I am glad to be able to say that I believe you to be misinformed in thinking that the interest of fundamentalists is confined to such questions as the authorship and dating of the Pentateuch, of Isaiah and of Daniel. Some of my friends are devoting a great deal of time to careful Biblical exegesis, and all of us are vitally interested in every part of God's revelation. We are grateful indeed for the light that has been shed on many aspects of the Bible by your own researches and archaeological findings.

I hope that the difficulties in the Jerusalem School that you mentioned to me are working out satisfactorily, and that your new administrative responsibilities will not take an undue amount of time and energy from your own research and study.

It was indeed a pleasure to see you again.

Sincerely yours,