

Today many Sunday School lessons present the first five books of the Bible as not written by Moses, but by a series of authors or schools who are called J, E, D, and P. It is alleged that these books can be divided into interwoven sections that can be allocated to these alleged writers who are presumed to have written their portions centuries apart. This complicated process is dogmatically presented as fact. Acceptance of these theories, and of what naturally followed from them, produced the process that led to promulgation of the new creed by the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Yet actually the whole theory is a remnant of a 19th-century method of approach that has been largely abandoned by literary and historical scholars in the 20th century. It represents an out-of-date approach, and uses a method that is no longer considered dependable. At times religious groups hold to archaic ideas. It is tragic when an archaic method is used to try to destroy God's Word.

People sometimes say they are not interested in the future life. This is about as sensible as if a passenger on an ocean liner were to say he did not care anything about what he would find on the other side. If he were going to an unsettled country it would be necessary for him to take along equipment to preserve his life against dangers that might be there. If he went without any such preparation his life would probably not last long. The Bible tells us there is a life beyond the grave. It is extremely important that we prepare for this future life.

The new creed of the United Presbyterian Church assumes that this life is all that matters, and has little to say about salvation through the Christ of the Bible. Its adoption will mean that a great church has abandoned its reason for existing and has turned aside to promote a program other than that which God has divinely revealed in His Word.