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Lectures on the Origin and History of the Bible

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## Table of Contents

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## [Lectures on the Origin and History of the Bible]

Earl C. Davis

### Lecture I: [The English Bible]

1. A: Results
2. B: Introduction
3. C: English Bible
  - a. Revised Version
  - b. King James Version of 1611
  - c. Septuagint
  - d. Vulgate
  - e. Outline
  - f. Caedmon
4. D: Historical Setting of the Translation
5. E: John Wycliffe
6. F: Tyndale
7. G: Coverdale's Bible, Matthew's Bible, The Great Bible, The Bible of King James
  - a. Coverdale's Bible
  - b. Matthew's Bible
  - c. The Great Bible
  - d. St. James Version
8. Appendix 1: Dates and important events, 449 through 1537, from the last two pages of the "Historical Setting" manuscript.
9. Appendix 2: Outline of points on the English Bible

### Lecture II: [History of Early Bible Manuscripts]

1. A: Questions
  - a. Are there any cases where a passage in the original is capable of such variations in translation as would give different meanings?
2. B: The Search for the Original Bible, "Textual Criticism"
  - a. Wycliffe
  - b. Tyndale
  - c. Coverdale
  - d. Great Bible
  - e. Edition of 1611
  - f. The Canon of Pope Gelasius
3. C: Textual Criticism[: The Manuscripts]
4. D: The Manuscripts
5. E: Rejected Passages
  - a. Mark 16:9-20
  - b. John 7:53-8:11

- c. 1 John 5:7-8
- d. Luke 22:43-44
- e. Matthew 16:2-3
- f. John 5:3-4
- g. Romans 9:5

Lecture III: [The Origin of the Books of the Old Testament, 1]

- 1. Higher Criticism
- 2. Outline of Lecture
- 3. Leaders in Criticism
- 4. A: Attitude Toward the Bible
- 5. B: Allegorical Interpretations
- 6. C: Early exponents of new views
- 7. D: School of Modern Criticism
- 8. E: Problems to be Met
  - a. Deuteronomy, written by Moses describes the death of Moses.
  - b. Double accounts of creation
  - c. Double accounts of the flood

Lecture IV: [The Origin of the Books of the Old Testament, 2]

- 1. Questions:
  - a. Has the science of Textual Criticism made any distinct gains during the last century over the early efforts of Criticism?
  - b. Last Sunday you said that as a result of Textual Criticism it was now safe to say that a text of the New Testament could be published that one would feel is 95% true. By "true" did you mean that the statements are true in 95% of the cases?
  - c. Are the documentary proofs of laws and ideas on a par with Hebrew ideas, and contemporary or prior to them? [This question is from a separate manuscript.]
  - d. Conflicting Accounts of the origin and contents of the Ten Commandments
- 2. A-1: Origins of the Pentateuch
- 3. A-2: Description of the documents
- 4. A-4: The Pentateuch as a whole
- 5. B: The Creation of the Jahvistic/Elohistic/Deuteronomic-JED-document
- 6. C: Primitive Ideas in the Jahvistic-J--document
  - a. The story of creation
  - b. The Garden of Eden
  - c. Evidences of human sacrifice
- 7. D: The Elohistic-E-document

8. E: The combination of J and E
9. F: Deuteronomy
10. Appendix 1: Diagram of history of origins of elements of the Pentateuch
11. Appendix 2: Dates of Various Books of the Old Testament

#### Lecture V: Amos and the Prophets

1. A: Historical Background
2. B: First-Hand Documents
3. C: Amos
4. D: Hosea
5. E: Isaiah
6. F: Concerning the Analysis of the Parts of Isaiah
7. G: Prophecy and Foretelling [of the Coming of Jesus]

#### Lecture VI: Finding the Book of Instruction in the Temple

1. A: Historical Background to Finding the Book of Instruction
2. B: Reforms that Followed Finding the Book of Instruction
3. C: What book was found in the Temple?
4. D: The Downfall of Judah
5. E: Jeremiah
6. F: Ezekiel

#### Lecture VII: [When and Where did the Hebrew Bible Become a Canonical Text?]

1. Recapitulation
2. A: [The Old Testament Canon]
3. B: Canon
4. C: [Historical Force on the Evolution of the Bible, 621-0 B.C.E.]
5. D: [Establishing the Pentateuch as Canonical Scripture]
6. E: [Adding the Prophets to the Pentateuch as Canonical Scripture]
7. F: [Adding the Other Writings to the Pentateuch and the Prophets as Canonical Scripture]
8. G: [Additional Old Testament Books in the Bible of the Early Christian Movement]

#### Lecture VIII: [The Historical Setting to the Early Origins of the Christian Bible]

1. A: [Review]
2. B: Absorbed Ideas

3. C: Hellenism
4. D: Graeco-Jewish
5. E: The Palestinian Jews
  - a. Scribes
  - b. Pharisees
  - c. Sadducees
  - d. Essenes
6. F: The Messianic Hope of Judaism
7. G: [Judaism and the Reign of Herod]

Lecture IX: [The Bible of the Early Christians]

1. A: [The Absence of References to Jesus and the Christian Church in Writings from the first and second centuries]
  - a. Pliny and Trajan
  - b. Tacitus
2. B: [Is the Life of Jesus a Myth?]
3. C: The Gnostic Movement
4. D: The Gnostics in the Church
5. E: [Establishing Boundaries Around the Christian Movement]

[Lecture X: Missing. From internal evidence it apparently covered the Epistles.]

Lecture XI: The Words of Jesus

1. A: [Review]
2. B: [Controversy over when Jesus Became the Son of God]
  - a. Paul
  - b. Mark
  - c. [Matthew]
  - d. [Luke]
  - e. [John]
3. C: [The Relationships Between the Synoptic Gospels]
4. D: Mark
5. E. Matthew
6. F. Luke
7. G. John
8. H. [Conclusions]

Lecture XII: Establishing the New Testament Canon

1. A: The Book of Revelation
2. B: [Overview of New Testament Literature]
3. C: [The Gospel of John]

4. D: [Forces Behind the Creation of Church Authority and the New Testament Canon]
5. E. [Early Authorities on the New Testament Canon]
  - a. Irenaeus
  - b. Clement of Alexandria
  - c. Tertullian
  - d. Muratori fragment
  - e. Clermont manuscript
  - f. Origen
  - g. Eusebius
6. F. [Making It the New Testament Canon]

Lecture XIII: The Bible as a Whole [outline, not full text]

1. A: Steps in the Attempt to get at the Origin and Character of the Bible
  - a. Study of translations
  - b. History of the manuscripts Aleph and Bezae
2. B: Steps in the Formation of the Old Testament Bible
  - a. Traditional stories
  - b. The New Testament
3. C: Historical Connections
  - a. Egyptian, 1400 to 1100 B.C.E.
  - b. Assyrian, 735 to 586 B.C.E.
  - c. Babylonian 597 to 539 B.C.E.
  - d. Persian, 539 to 333 B.C.E.
  - e. Greek, 333 to 63 B.C.E.
  - f. Roman, 63 B.C.E.
4. D: Breadth of Biblical Literature
  - a. Tradition. Historical
  - b. Laws, Religious and civil
  - c. Prophets
  - d. Poetry
  - e. Wisdom Literature
  - f. Apocalyptic literature
  - g. Biograph
  - h. Letters
5. E. Sources of Historical Information
  - a. In ethnology, ethics, philosophy
  - b. In religious customs, ideas
  - c. In great characters of history
  - d. Of literary masterpieces
  - e. Uses in past
  - f. One of the greatest books in the world

#### Lecture XIV: The New Testament Story of the Resurrection

1. A: Three General Remarks
2. B: Paul's Attitude
3. C: [The Gospels]
4. D: But Some Doubted
5. E. Scripture Fulfilled
6. F. Where did these Stories Come From?
7. G. [Conclusion]
8. Appendix 1: [Table of] Appearances [in the Gospels]

#### [Lecture XV: Bibliography]

1. A: A Few Books Worth Reading
2. B: Additional books referenced in Davis' Lectures on the History of the Bible

#### [Lecture XVI: Additional Materials]

1. Outline of Talk on Bible [Origins of the Bible (likely Wednesday, November 21, 1950)]
2. List of Attendees at #1 above
3. Second Evening, November 28, 1950, Textual Criticism
4. Notes on Third Evening of Bible Study [Revolt and Reformation (likely Wednesday December 6, 1950)]
5. Lesson 2: Peter Waldo
6. List of Gospels