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Lecture XIII: the Bible as a Whole

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"The Bible as a Whole"

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Lecture 13. ~~March~~ April 2, 1916.

Steps in the attempt to get at the origin and character of the Bible:

First. Study of Translations.

First. Wycliffe

Tyndale.

King James. 1611.

Revised version.

Second the History of the Mss. Aleph. and Bezae.

Steps in the formation of the Old Testament Bible.

Traditional stories. J. and E first written down in the eighth century.

Amos. ~~ca~~ 750 .

Isaiah.

Deuteronomy. 650

Priestly Code. Exile

Prophets added. in Persian period.

Other writings. in greek Period.

Canon Closed 100 A.D.

New Testament/ Began 53 A.D.

Canon closed 419 and by the Pope 496 A.D.

Historical connections.

Egyptian. 1400 to 1100 about.

Assyrian. 735 to 586.

Many primitive agricultural customs absorbed from the
after the abandonment of the nomadic life.

597
Babylonian. 586 ---- ~~556~~ 539

Laws, customs, ~~Sunday~~ Sabbath . Literary legends, e/g/
the Garden of Eden story , see Gen 2, 10-15 for location in
Babylonian region .

Persian 539-----333

Idea of the Resurrection entered Jewish life at this time and
came from the Persians.

Greek 333 -----63 Pompey in Syria.

Greek Culture. Logos. Philosophy. Predominant not of
Christianity.

Roman. 63

Breadth of Biblical Literature.

Tradition. Historical ~~sources~~

Laws. Religious and civil.

Prophets?

Poetry, ranging from the Epic of Job to the love lyrics of the songs of Solomon.

Wisdom literature.

Apocalyptic literature.

Biography.

Letters.

Lecture XIII

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Source of historical information.

Source of information in ethnology, ethics, philosophy etc.

Source of information on religious customs and ideas of the past
Some of the great Characters of History are found in this book.

Source of Literary masterpieces.

Use in the past. Educational/ Expressional. Symbol for the idea
of the progressive achievement of mankind in matters of ethics, ~~the~~
thoughts, government, and religion. It is one of the greatest
books in the world.

[The Origin and History of the Bible]

Lecture XIII: The Bible as a Whole¹

Earl C. Davis

1. Steps in the Attempt to get at the Origin and Character of the Bible
 - a. First: Study of translations.
 - i. First. Wycliffe.
 - ii. Tyndale.
 - iii. King James. 1611.
 - iv. Revised version.
 - b. Second: The history of the mss. Aleph and Bezae.
2. Steps in the Formation of the Old Testament Bible
 - a. First: Traditional Stories.
 - i. J and E first written down in the eighth century [B.C.E.].
 - ii. Amos, 750 [B.C.E.].
 - iii. Isaiah.
 - iv. Deuteronomy, 650 [B.C.E.].
 - v. Prophets added in the Persian period.
 - vi. Other writings in the Greek period.
 - vii. Canon closed 100 A.D.
3. The New Testament
 - a. Began 53 A.D.
 - b. Canon closed 419 [C.E.] and by the Pope 496 [C.E.].
4. Historical Connections
 - a. First: Egyptian, 1400 to 1100 [B.C.E.] about.
 - b. Second: Assyrian, 735 to 586 [B.C.E.].
 - i. Many primitive agricultural customs absorbed after the abandonment of the nomadic life.
 - c. Third: Babylonian 597/586 to 539 [B.C.E.].
 - i. Laws.
 - ii. Customs.

¹ The earlier lectures are all full text manuscripts. (Lecture 10 is missing.) This manuscript is different. It is an expanded outline, not full text. It also has a date, April 2, 1916. Unfortunately, only an outline, but still suggestive of what Davis had in mind to say at this point in his lectures.

- iii. Literary legends, e.g., the Garden of Eden story (see Genesis 2:10-15 for location in the Babylonian region.
 - d. Fourth: Persian 539 to 333 [B.C.E.].
 - i. Idea of Resurrection entered Jewish life at this time and came from the Persians.
 - e. Fifth: Greek 333 to 63 [B.C.E.]. Pompey in Syria.
 - i. Greek culture.
 - ii. Logos.
 - iii. Philosophy predominant.
 - iv. Not of Christianity.
 - f. Sixth: Roman 63 [B.C.E.].

5. Breadth of Biblical Literature

- a. First: Tradition. Historical.
- b. Second: Laws, Religious and Civil.
- c. Third: Prophets.
- d. Fourth: Poetry, ranging from the epic of Job to the love lyrics of the Songs of Solomon.
- e. Fifth: Wisdom literature.
- f. Sixth: Apocalyptic literature.
- g. Seventh: Biography.
- h. Eighth: Letters.

6. Sources of Historical Information

- a. First: Source of information in:
 - i. Ethnology.
 - ii. Ethics.
 - iii. Philosophy, etc.
- b. Second: Source of information in:
 - i. Religious customs.
 - ii. Ideas of the past.
- c. Third: Some of the great characters of history are found in this book.
- d. Fourth: Source of Literary masterpieces.
- e. Fifth: Use in the past:
 - i. Educational/expressional.
 - ii. Symbol for the idea of the progressive achievement of mankind in matters of ethics, thought, government and religion.
- f. Sixth: It is one of the greatest books in the world.