

and Mosaic ages, but the times of the writers themselves, who painted on the canvas of the past the ideas of the then present. So we have the Elohist narrative and the Jehovistic story book, then another who blends both, and these are called by letters of the alphabet E.J. and J.E., P & D, etc. It is also held that these did not come into their present shape at once, but were separate works. First, there was the priestly code, comprising Leviticus, portions of Exodus and Numbers according as they wrote in the priestly spirit. Second, there was the book of the covenant, comprising Exodus 21-23, and other passages relating to covenants represented by the letter Q, meaning four. Then Deuteronomy and a book of Holiness, and other fragments and interpolations gathered by any number of redactors. This, I think, will be admitted to be a fair presentation of the case of the Analytic Critics.

Who can believe that any book was ever written after that manner or criticised after that fashion? If these claims are true, then our Bible is the most accidental conglomeration of old-time sagas that ever saw the light of day. Some have printed these in colors so as to distinguish the various scraps at a glance, and what has aptly been called the rainbow Bible has appeared—a kind of Joseph's coat of many colors, like that famous garment, doomed, I think, to be a source of confusion and disaster. Two things, I think, have chiefly led up to the adoption of this