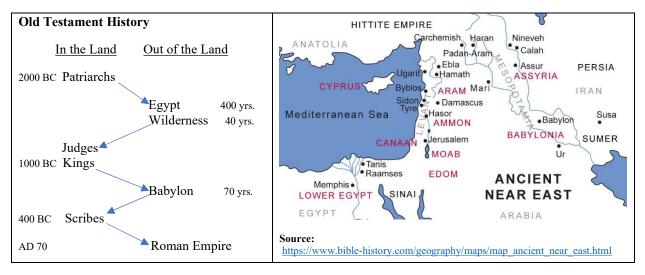
Lecture 12: Higher Criticism of the Bible

February 10, 2020



Higher Criticism

Two Issues

- 1. Late Date
- 2. Sources
- Three Areas:
- 1. Pentateuch the five Books of Moses not written by Moses?
 - 2. Prophets Deutero-Isaiah? Late Daniel?
- (like two Jobs) 3. Gospels – not written by eve-witnesses?

Why? Modern scholars have lived in a Box with scientific naturalism—prophecy is *de facto* impossible.

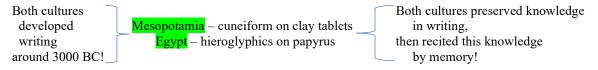
Example: The Documentary Hypothesis

	Proof	But
J – Jehovah	1. Names => different sources	unprecedented in ANE
E-Elohim	2. Repetition => different sources	prized by the ANE
D-Deuteronomist	3. Contradictions => different sources	where's the editor?
P-Priestly	4. Styles => different sources	risky—by what criteria?
	5. Evolutionary Development of Religion – alleged as fact	slide from monotheism

Bottom Line - naturalistic assumptions

Beyond the question of inspiration, higher criticism attacks basic historicity.

Historical Question: Did the Ancient Near East have a long oral tradition?



Proto-Sinaitic Inscriptions - first known alphabet (1500 BC) - where Moses lived, when Moses lived...

Phoenecia \rightarrow Greece \rightarrow Rome \rightarrow English (Canaanites)

Even a boy could write in Canaan, due to the genius of the alphabet-see the symbol, say the sound!

The Old Testament has...

Literary Sources - e.g. The Book of Jasher

Literary Forms – e.g. second-Millennium Hittite covenant-treaty

Literary Rationale – e.g. to be a witness against a rebellious people (Deut. 31, Isa. 30)

Literary Imprimatur – Jesus said that Moses wrote of Him in his writings (John 5:45-47)

Next Class: *Why do many plagues? What about the Name?*