

THE COMPOSITION OF THE TORAH

The Documentary Hypothesis

(J, E, D, P)

Century	Author/Redactor	Place	Historical Context	Theological Perspective
10th	YAHWISTS ("J")	Judah (South)	United Monarchy	national epic
9th	ELOHISTS ("E")	Israel (North)	Split Monarchy	national epic for N; emphasis on northern heroes, shrines, versions of founding legends
7th	DEUTERONOMISTS ("D")	Jerusalem	Kg. Josiah reforms nation	renewal and extension of epic; history of people in the promised land
6th	DTR ²	Judah	Attempting to rebuild	
500?	PRIESTLY WRITERS ("P")	Jerusalem	Attempting to rebuild	God universal, but remote