
Name _____

Date _____

Handout 3-E

JEDP Worksheet

Biblical scholars theorize that the Torah was written by four distinct sources and that it is possible to recognize these sources through particular characteristics of particular biblical sections. If we know who is doing the writing of a section, we will also know their viewpoint and what they tried to emphasize about God in their writing which will aid us in interpreting the meaning of the passage.

Yahwist writers (J) prefer to use the name LORD or LORD God. They often portray God in very human terms, acting more human than divine. God is very close to his creation and people.

Priestly writers (P) prefer to use the name GOD when speaking of God. They portray God as far above his creation, giving commands, being an all-powerful God. They also like to list family trees (genealogies).

Elohists (E) make use of angels, visions, and dreams as ways God interacts with his people.

Deuteronomists (D) are the writers of the book of Deuteronomy.

Directions: Look up the following passages in your Bible and see if you can determine which group is responsible for the writing. Look for the characteristics listed above. Write the code letter for each source and then write your reason for choosing that source as the author of that passage.

1. Gn 1:3-5 _____
2. Gn 2:1-4 _____
3. Gn 2:5-9 _____
4. Gn 3:8-13 _____
5. Gn 3:21-24 _____
6. Gn 4:1-7 _____
7. Gn 5:1-5 _____
8. Gn 6:5-8 _____
9. Gn 11:1-9 _____
10. Gn 11:10-26 _____
11. Gn 20:1-18 _____
12. Gn 31:4-17 _____
13. Gn 36:4-17 _____
14. Dt 1:1-5 _____