

The reason for the divinely established Jewish state.

Psalm 111:10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.

(1) Furthermore, there might be many reasons why the Jewish state was established in that way: That it might be **the workplace** of His divine revelations, that is, there might be a specific people to whom God revealed Himself by the proclaimed Word and accompanying great miracles. Ps. 76:1–2: “In Judah is God known; in Israel His name is great. In Salem is His tabernacle, and His dwelling place is in Zion.” ...

MDH: **Deuteronomy 4:1-8**, “⁶Therefore be careful to observe *them*; for **this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes, and say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’** ⁷“For what great nation *is there* that has God *so* near to it, as the LORD our God *is* to us, for whatever reason we may call upon Him? ⁸“And what great nation *is there* that has *such* statutes and righteous judgments as are in all this law which I set before you this day?”

Also **Deuteronomy 4:32-40**, “For ask now concerning the days that are past, which were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth, and ask from one end of heaven to the other, whether any great thing like this has happened, or anything like it has been heard. ³³“Did any people ever hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as you have heard, and live?”

(2) That it might be **an academy and school**, that is, a sure seat of doctrine [*sedes doctrinae*] from which all people should have sought out the true knowledge of God and the way for truly worshiping Him. Ps. 122:3–4: “Jerusalem is built as a city for this purpose, that they may gather there together; the tribes go up to there, the tribes of the Lord, up to the testimony” (or the word) “of the Lord of Israel might be preached.” Ps. 147:19–20: “He declares His word to Jacob, His statutes and ordinances to Israel. He has not dealt thus with any other nation; He has not made known His ordinances to them.” Here note that Jerusalem was located almost in the middle of the known world, so that from this central point the fragrance of heavenly doctrine might be wafted into every area of the inhabited world.

MDH: Teaching the Gospel of Christ: Genesis 12:2-3, ‘I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.³ I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you **all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**” Luke 2:32, “**a light** for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” Matthew 28:19a, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations...”

(3) That there might be **a library** in which to preserve and transmit to posterity the writings of Moses and the prophets. Rom. 3:2: “The oracles of God were entrusted to the Israelites.” Augustine (Contra Faustum, bk. 12, ch. 23): “What is the Jewish people but the sort of **bookcase** for Christians which holds the Law and the prophets as a testimony to the assertion of the church?”

(4) To be **a shelter for Christ** as He was born, teaching, and carrying out His office of Redeemer. Gen. 49:10: “The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the lawgiver from the midst of his people until Shiloh comes.” Rom. 9:4–5: “To the Israelites belong the Promises, and from them comes Christ according to the flesh.” John 4:22: “Salvation is from the Jews.”... (Gerhard, Pages 237-238).

Exodus Chapter 20	
¹ And God spoke all these words, saying: ² "I <i>am</i> the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.	
First Commandment ³ You shall have no other gods before Me. ⁴ You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness <i>of anything</i> that <i>is</i> in heaven above, or that <i>is</i> in the earth beneath, or that <i>is</i> in the water under the earth; ⁵ you shall not bow down to them nor serve them.	
For I, the Lord your God, <i>am</i> a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth <i>generations</i> of those who hate Me, ⁶ but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.	
Second Commandment ⁷ You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold <i>him</i> guiltless who takes His name in vain.	
Third Commandment ⁸ Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.	
⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day <i>is</i> the Sabbath of the Lord your God. <i>In it</i> you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who <i>is</i> within your gates. ¹¹ For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.	
Fourth Commandment ¹² Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.	
Fifth ¹³ You shall not murder.	
Sixth ¹⁴ You shall not commit adultery.	
Seventh ¹⁵ You shall not steal.	
Eighth ¹⁶ You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.	
Ninth ¹⁷ You shall not covet your neighbor's house ;	
Tenth you shall not covet your neighbor's wife , nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that <i>is</i> your neighbor's."	