

done for the gaze of the race. And God's wisdom selected not only the people so keenly receptive of moral ideas, but the land for them to inhabit, that his purpose might be accomplished of giving to the race through them, as they dwelt in this central position, a revelation of his will.

The *historic* position of the Hebrew race in their home at Palestine is worthy of study, as showing another feature of God's plan. There were centuries before them. There have been centuries after them. But had they appeared sooner or later in the calendar of historic time, they would have utterly failed in their mission. Back of them were the two great historic peoples of Babylonia and Egypt, but both were waning when the Hebrews appeared. After them the Romans were the world's masters. Parallel with them was the Assyrian empire in the days of its strength. A few centuries earlier the documents of Moses would have been impossible. A few centuries later the necessary tuition of the Hebrews in the arts of Egypt could not have been had. Their geographical position was not more striking, as they fronted the continents, than was their historical position as they stood conspicuous in the world's thought. They took from the wisdom of