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Neusner, Jacob. *Theological and Philosophical Premises of Judaism*. Boston: Academic Studies Press (Judaism and Jewish Life), 2008. 245 p. \$50.00 (ISBN 978-1-93484-319-3).

The prolific professor Neusner argues that rabbinic Judaism sees Israel as having a unique status in time and space while it is constantly under the judgment of the Creator. He tries to tease out theological and philosophical premises from the concrete commandments in the Mishnah and other classical post-biblical writings with thought-provoking results. As he writes, "... the fundamental program of the Mishnah: to make concrete and orderly the encounter of Israel and God." This is a learned and very detailed study if also a bit prolix. For academic collections with a strong emphasis on rabbinic theology.

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