

2 Assess the Jewish response to the challenge of secularisation.

Explain ZIONISM
from religious viewpoint
(12)

One Jewish response to the challenge of secularisation is the more traditional, Conservative Judaism. Some believe fundamentalism will increase the number of Jews due to the huge decline and make people realise the importance of following the Torah and Talmud. This response includes people becoming strict Jews following the 613 Mitzvot commandments and living their life in accordance to God as in the Torah it states "Walk in God's ways".

Another Jewish response to the challenge of secularisation is an emphasis on Zionism. Many Jews believe Israel is their homeland and will help strengthen the Jewish identity if Jews are to move there. This links to Herzl's beliefs such as Theodor Herzl who sings about Zionism in his poems and songs clearly showing the importance. This response shows that with Jews having their own land ~~and~~ free from anti-Semitism it will cause a decline in secularisation and an increase in Jewish identity. However some would contest this view by arguing that Zionism would cause further secularisation and lead to Jews being very separate from the rest of the world.

A Controversial Jewish response to the challenge of secularisation

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is a more broad reform movement. Many Jews believe that Judaism is outdated and a more modern outlook should occur. The reform movement can be one response to reduce secularization as people may stray from religion if it seems far too much commitment. These reform Jews don't place as much importance on the halakha and living a strict ~~life~~ life they place more emphasis on practice. This reform Judaism better fits in with a modernized world and helps them to assimilate into the modern world.

Building on reform Judaism being a response to secularization can be seen by Feldkeller and his involvement in ~~being~~ giving laws to this movement due to hashalah (enlightenment). Some argue this is the reason why Jews have turned this way as the reform movement is much more accepting of modern attitudes and values leading to an increase in religiosity. Reform Jews are much more accepting of homosexuality and human rights and do their best to advocate LGBTQ+ rights. Therefore this response challenges secularization as it makes ~~that~~ Judaism more appealing for a modernized world.



(Total for Question 2 = 12 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 20 MARKS

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