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**ERETZ ISRAEL  
BULLETIN 111**

**WORLD ALLIANCE FOR THE CORRECTION  
OF THE SIN OF THE SPIES**

**“LIVING IN ERETZ ISRAEL IS THE EQUIVALENT OF ALL THE  
MITZVOT OF THE TORAH” (SIFRE, PARASHAT REE)**

**LEARN THE LESSON AND DO NOT FOLLOW ON THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE SPIES**

## **RAV KOOK: IT IS A TRAGEDY WHEN WE FALL IN LOVE WITH THE GALUT**

Rav Kook said, one must root oneself in Eretz Yisrael, not abandon her, nor make her a foreign thing. Someone who wants to be close to the king doesn't travel to one of his territories on the other side of the globe - he goes to the palace. In the words of the Kuzari, prophecy only occurs, in her or for her. In the Land of Israel, or on her behalf. (Kuzari 2:14) Prophecy, the highest and clearest expression of our closeness to Hashem, occurs either in Israel or in a situation of yearning for Eretz Yisrael. As the Gemara says, "One who eagerly awaits to see her. (Ketubot 75A. But of Zion it shall be said. 'This and that man was born in her.' Both the one who is born there, and the one who yearns to see her.) Through his yearning to belong to Eretz Yisrael, he becomes a part of her, and shares in her special gifts.

**Thus, the Rosh Yeshiva said, leaving Eretz Yisrael  
should not even enter one's thoughts**

..."We need to foster the understanding, and the feeling, that we must live in Israel, that this is our normal place, in terms of religion, and in terms of our nationhood. If we are not here, we are unhealthy. And from time to time, the gentiles remind us that we are living in their domain, in an alien land."

"This must be clear before anything else - no matter where a Jew is, he belongs only to Eretz Yisrael. This is his permanent home. Outside the Land, we have the status of guests. For two or three years, it is possible to be there, in order to fulfill a mitzvah, but the aim of our life is to be here."

(From Sefer Torat Eretz Yisrael)

**PLEASE HASHEM SAVE US FROM THE SIN OF THE SPIES WHO SPOKE LASHON HARA AGAINST ERETZ ISRAEL. LET US CORRECT THE SIN OF “THEY DESPISED THE DESIRABLE LAND” (TEHILLIM 106) FOR IN THIS WAY WE BRING CLOSER THE COMPLETE GEULA WHEN YOUR NAME WILL BE SANCTIFIED IN THE WORLD AND YOUR NATION ISRAEL SHALL BE EXALTED AND YOUR BEIT HA MIKDASH REBUILT MAY THIS BE SOON IN OUR DAYS, AMEN YEHI RATZON**