

**BS`D**  
**ERETZ ISRAEL**  
**BULLETIN 15**

*“DWELLING IN ERETZ ISRAEL IS EQUIVALENT TO  
ALL THE MITZVOT OF THE TORAH” (SIFREI, PARASHAT REE)*

**THE SIN OF THE SPIES STILL PRESENT AMONG  
OUR LEADERS IN GALUT**

In Moriah, Dr. Yitzchak Breuer tells us that in 1926, Rabbi Yosef Chaim Sonnenfeld asked him, "Where are the Torah Jews from the lands of our exile? Don't they see G-d's finger in all this? Now I understand what it says in the musaf prayer for Yom Tov. 'And because of our sins we were exiled from our country and were distanced from our Land.' 'We were exiled from our country' by G-d, and then 'we were distanced from our Land' by ourselves! Have we ceased our constant anticipation? Imagine that it hadn't rained for 2,000 years, and then suddenly one day a tiny cloud appeared. Wouldn't everyone become excited, and say, trembling - 'Perhaps this is it? Maybe after all...? Isn't the (British) Mandate at least comparable to this little cloud?' , (Moriah, p. 197).

This explains the words of our mentor, the Or HaChayim. He writes that Israel's leaders throughout the generations will be held responsible for the fact that we are still in exile, because they should have inspired the Children of Israel to love Eretz Israel. (Or HaChayim, VaYikra 25:25)

Therefore, my friends and brothers, do not pay any attention to those who slander the Land, even if they are truly righteous. For, I mentioned above that the brilliant mentor of Eretz Israel, R. Yosef Chayim Sonnenfeld z"l, derived from the words of the Shelah that even tzaddikim can be spies. Realize that all those who oppose aliyah and the building and resettlement of the Land belong to the camp of the spies. But, all those who choose aliyah belong to Yehoshua and Calev's camp. R Ysachar Shlomo Teichtel ZTKL Em ha Banim Semecha

From The Vilna Gaon, his student writes in Kol HaTor, Ch.5: "Many of the sinners in this great sin of, 'They despised the cherished land,' and also many of the guardians of Torah, will not know or understand that they are caught in this sin of the Spies, that they have been sucked into the sin of the Spies in many false ideas and empty claims, and they cover their ideas with the already proven fallacy that the mitzvah of the settlement of Israel no longer applies in our day, an opinion which has already been disproved by the giants of the world, the Rishonim and Achronim."

*Please Hashem, Be good to Me according to Your will, and grant me with compassion and kindness and as a free gift, that I will soon merit to come to Eretz Israel, to the Eretz ha Keddosha, the Land our forefathers inherited, the Land which all the authentic Tzaddikim, wished with all their soul and desired to be there, and most of them came there... (Tefillah of Rebbe Nachman of Bresslov)*