

BS`D  
**ERETZ ISRAEL**  
**BULLETIN 16**

*"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**

For a day comes" in which a man will throw his gods of silver, and his desire for the pleasures of the world, and his gods of gold, his lust for money, and they will come to Eretz Israel for it is in you hands, only that you are tied down by the mud of lust for the vanities of this world

Rabbi Shlomo ha Levi Alkabetz

Every Jew has to resolve in his heart to go up to live in Eretz Israel...And truthfully it is an astonishment upon Israel that in every place Jews were stringent regarding the details of various Mitzvot, they spend great amounts of money in order to observe the Mitzvot, and why do you delay and abandon this beloved Mitzvah, a handle on which all the Torah depends?

Rabbi Yaakov Emden

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)*