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**ERETZ ISRAEL  
BULLETIN 167**

**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**

**THE CENTRALITY OF ERETZ YISRAEL TO JEWISH  
LIFE AND TORAH CAN READILY BE OVERLOOKED,  
EVEN BY A TALMID CHACHAM**

"Eretz Yisrael is transformed into a side concern, a secondary thing, neither essential, nor vital to our lives. The Land of Israel is not seen as necessary to existence, and the thought takes form that it is possible to continue Jewish life outside of the Land. Out of superficial understanding, a compromise is made with the Galut, and one thinks it is possible to continue to survive there. "

"There are two possible orientations to Israel: a vital, mystical, deep connection; or a shallow, superficial approach, as if only the practical sides of Judaism are important, 'For to seize just the revealed aspect (of Judaism), one won't miss anything fundamental in the absence of the Land, or in the absence of a Jewish state, or in any aspect of nationhood and its building. "(Orot, Eretz Yisrael, 2. HaRav Avraham Yitzhak HaCohen Kook)

How were we to uncover this deeper level of Judaism? Through a deeper learning. Through a deeper bravery. Through the bravery of opening ourselves to hear the clear call of our Torah. And by simply opening our eyes to see the words of our prophets being fulfilled in our time.

**"One who learns Torah for its own sake, secrets of Torah are revealed to him. (Avot 6:1) Contrasting this is the situation where one becomes alienated from the inner depths of the Torah, and even worse, when one becomes foreign to them.**

...The Rabbi of Ostrovtsa exclaimed, 'What is going on here?! Hashem sent His holy children to build the Holy Land, and here people condemn them!" (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**