

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 184**

**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

**JUST AS THERE ARE TORAH SCHOLARS WHO TAKE ISSUE
TODAY WITH THE WAY HASHEM IS RETURNING HIS
CHILDREN TO ZION, SO TOO IN EZRA'S TIME, TORAH
SCHOLARS CRITICIZED THE WORKS OF HASHEM.**

The Almighty does what He pleases, when He pleases, in the manner He pleases, and He does not need our approval. Rav Tzvi Yehuda emphasized this by pointing to Koresh, the gentile king responsible for returning the exiled Jews to Zion. The prophecy of Isaiah contains an interesting verse: “Thus says the Lord to His anointed, to Koresh”. Isaiah, 45:1 What a horror!" Rav Tzvi Yehuda said. "Koresh is called the Mashiach. (See Megilla 12A)

However, the intention, Rav Kook explained, is that Koresh was a spark of Mashiach. All of Koresh's valor and success came from Hashem's help, as it says, to Koresh, whose right hand I have held, that I may subdue nations before him, and loose the loins of kings. Isaiah, 45:1 Here, the Almighty reveals that everything comes from Him, For Yaakov, My servant's sake, and for Israel, My chosen. Isaiah, 45:4 Hashem is the source of everything. I am the Lord, and there is none else; there is no G-d beside Me. I girded thee, though thou hast not known Me, that they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west that there is none beside Me. I am the Lord, and there is none else. I form the light and create darkness; I make peace and create evil. Isaiah, 45:6 Everything in the world, Rav Tzvi Yehuda stressed, in heaven, and in all of the earth, is from Hashem, as it says, I, the Lord, do all of these things. Isaiah, 45:6

In the era of the Second Temple, the Almighty used a gentile king to return His exiled children to Zion. I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will make straight his ways. He shall build My city, and he shall let go My captives (Isaiah, 45:13) There were people who didn't agree with this way of restoring things. They thought the Geula should come in a holier way, and that the Temple be built in a more suitable manner. However, the Lord has many Shlichim, and He does what He wants. King Herod, a gentile, usurped the throne of Israel by force, murdered all of the Rabbis, save Rabbi Baba ben Buta, whom he only blinded, (Baba Batra 3B-4A.) and yet Hashem allowed him to reconstruct the Second Temple and to rebuild the city of Jerusalem

(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**