

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 198**

**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

**R' YOSEF CHAIM SONNENFELD LOOKED AT HIS GRANDSON
LOVINGLY AND REPLIED, "MY SON, I FEEL THAT BEING A
LABORER IN ERETZ ISRAEL IS GREATER THAN BEING A RAV
IN CHUTZ LA'ARETZ (THE DIASPORA)." HEARING THIS, THE
GRANDSON IMMEDIATELY ABANDONED HIS PLANS**

R' YITZCHAK YERUCHAM DISKIN was particularly fond of one of R' Chaim's grandsons and he spent much time with him. The boy was an exceptional young talmid chacham, and R' Yitzchak Yerucham would therefore give him copies of the famous maarachos (dissertations) he delivered before Jerusalem's leading scholars on Pesach and Succos. When the young man got married, R' Yitzchak Yerucham prevailed upon him to seek a rabbinical position in Europe, which would enable him to pursue his Torah studies unburdened by financial worries. In Eretz Israel, explained R' Yitzchak Yerucham, some of the most brilliant and promising young scholars faded into oblivion due to the lack of fertile ground for their development, as well as the ever mounting pressures of supporting a family in the difficult economic climate of Eretz Israel. R' Yitzchak Yerucham even succeeded in using his connections to secure an appointment for the young scholar as Rav of one of Czechoslovakia's leading communities.

Armed with this appointment, the young man mustered enough courage to visit his grandfather and inform him of the situation. He explained to his grandfather his financial plight and his sincere desire to proceed with his studies undisturbed, both of which would be successfully resolved by accepting the position in one of Europe's most prestigious communities.

R' Chaim looked at his grandson lovingly and replied, "My son, I feel that being a laborer in Eretz Israel is greater than being a Rav in Chutz La'aretz (the diaspora)." Hearing this, the grandson immediately abandoned his plans.

FROM SEFER HA ISH AL HA CHOMA

**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**