

**BS`D**  
**ERETZ ISRAEL**  
**BULLETIN 2**

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

They [the spies] brought back to the Children of Israel an evil report of the land which they had searched, saying, "The land which we investigated is a land that eats up its inhabitants. " (Bamidbar 13:32)

**THE SIN OF THE SPIES IS PRESENT AMONG  
THOSE JEWS THAT OPPOSE SETTLING  
IN ERETZ ISRAEL**

So just the same way in which the brothers opposed Yosef and they further opposed the land, in our times religious Jews oppose the Mitzvah of settling in Eretz Israel (They oppose Tzion) by perpetuating their abode in impure lands, thereby becoming contaminated by the ideals of the nations where they live in. And so it is that when Jews live in America they become contaminated with the idea that material success is the main goal in life, and thereby they refuse to go up to Eretz Israel for it entails the risk of a descent in respect to their luxurious dwellings and their prospects for material success. Their bodies become to them more important than their souls. (Sefer Chibat ha Aretz)

When the ten spies went out to spy the land, the souls of the ten corresponding tribes came into them, the actual sons of Ya'akov. This is the sod (Secret) of what Yosef told them (his brothers), "You are spies" (Bereishis 42:9), to allude that in the future their souls would go into the spies. (Kitve ha Ari ha Kaddosh Sha'ar HaGilgulim, Introduction 36)

"It is preferable to dwell in the deserts of Eretz Israel than the palaces of Chutz La Aretz" (Bereshit Rabba 39:8).

"If you desire to see the Presence of the Shechina in this world, study Torah in Eretz Israel." (Midrash Tehillim 105)

*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)*