

BS`D
ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 21

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

**BEING IN THE GALUT NOWADAYS IS A GREAT
FAULT FOR JEWS. PERIOD**

It is impossible to come to the Land of Israel without difficulties and suffering. The root of all the difficulties and suffering lies in the slanderous image of the Land which is put about by the wicked. They are the source of all the obstacles. But the power of the Torah which we draw into ourselves enables us to overcome all the obstacles, the difficulties and suffering. The more profound a person's grasp of the Torah and the greater the Tikkun he brings about through his attainment, the greater his victory over the obstacles, and he will succeed in reaching the Land of Israel (REBBE NACHMAN LIKUTE MOHARAN 6).

Again and again, Rabbi Yosef Chaim Sonnenfeld exhorted the Jews of chutz la'Aretz to come to Eretz Israel. "Whoever has the means to come live in Eretz Israel and does not, will have to answer for it in Heaven," he would say. (Halsh Al HaChoma, II, 149)

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

The Keli Yakar, as well, has words on this issue (on Bereishis 47): "Many are the ignorant Jews who settle in the lands of other nations. They build themselves splendid, secure houses - homes built of stone, buildings meant to endure. For this reason, they never turn to Hashem with all their hearts to ask that He return them to their Land. Therefore, the Almighty leaves them there."

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

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)