

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL  
BULLETIN 286**

**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  
FROM THE WRITINGS OF RABBI MEIR DAVID KAHANE ZTKL**

**THE FALSE PROPHETS OF ISRAEL**

Our sages said (Berachot 29a): They have led My people astray, saying "Peace!" when there was no peace. Should anyone build a wall, these daub it with whitewash. They are the prophets of Israel who prophesied concerning Jerusalem and saw visions of peace when there was no peace, says the L-rd G-d. (Ezek. 13:10,16)

**Since warnings have been voiced for so long and remain unfulfilled, there are people who say that, indeed, the tragedies will come in the end of days, in some far off time, but surely not in our day.**

Thus, precisely G-d's mercy which made Him give Israel an extension which would allow them to repent and nullify the calamity, is what undermined the warnings. Hence Ezekiel adds (v. 23), "Tell them there fore, 'Thus says the L-rd G-d: I will make this proverb cease; they shall no more use it in Israel.' Say to them: 'The days are at hand; the word of every vision.'"

If, after all the warnings, Israel still do not return to their Father in Heaven through deeds of complete faith and trust, G-d will decide at a certain time to unleash the suffering and Messianic birth pangs of redemption "in its time." These will arrive immediately, out of the blue - G-d have mercy! It thus says, "Destruction follows destruction, for the whole land is spoiled. Suddenly are my tents spoiled, my curtains in a moment" (Jer. 4:20); and, "O daughter of my people, gird sackcloth and roll in ashes... for the pillager shall attack suddenly" (Jer. 6:26).

K'li Yakar provides an invaluable insight on this in his comments on Deut. 4:25-26: Since sentence against evil is not executed speedily, their hearts are fully set to do evil. They do not sense that G-d is delaying His anger to collect what is coming to Him in the end of days. It thus says, "When you have children [and grandchildren, and have been established in the Land for a long time] you might become decadent and make a statue [of some image, committing an evil act in the eyes of the L-rd your G-d and making Him angry]" (Deut. 4:25). That is, within the very time that you become decadent, you will have children and grandchildren according to the way of

the world, and become established in the Land, and you will mistakenly say, "If G-d wished to kill us, He would not remain silent so long. After all, we have children according to the way of the world, and we live on the Land many days. Surely we must be guiltless."

It therefore says, "I call heaven and earth as witnesses for you today that you will quickly perish from this land" (Deut 4:26). It is G-d's way not to bring troubles in quick succession, as the Midrash derived from the words, "Keep a space between one herd and the next" (Gen. 32:17). This is specifically when He punishes immediately without a prolonged interval; but if He delays His anger a long time, then in the end of days, He brings compounded troubles in quick succession.

It was this way with the First Temple. They worshipped idols for a long time, starting in Jeroboam's day. Even so, G-d delayed His anger, as it says, "You will quickly be destroyed" (Deut. 11:17). There Rashi explains, "I will give you no extensions" [i.e., no further extensions]. In the same way, it says here, "You will surely be destroyed quickly" (Deut. 4:26). The "quickness" here surely refers to the troubles that will ultimately come in quick succession.

**REMOVING THE EXILE FROM ISRAEL IS TEN TIMES  
HARDER THAN REMOVING ISRAEL FROM THE EXILE  
TO OUR SORROW, THIS DISEASE HAS EVEN SMITTEN  
TORAH SCHOLARS.**

**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**