

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL  
BULLETIN 288**

**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**

**That which comes into your mind shall never come about. You say, "We will be like the families of the nations, serving wood and stone." As I live, says the L-rd G-d, surely with a mighty hand, and with an outstretched arm, and with anger poured out, will I be King over you. (Ezek. 20:32-33)**

G-d will not let Israel assimilate. Rather, He will angrily cast them out of the exile by the nations rising up to destroy or banish them from their lands. In this regard, the first redemption presages the present one. G-d told Moses (Ex. 6:1), "Now you will see what I do to Pharaoh. With a strong hand he will send them out and with a strong hand he will drive them out of his land." Rashi and Rashbam both comment: "Against Israel's will he will drive them out." Israel were always a stiff-necked people and never wished to leave a comfortable exile. They always had to be driven out for their own good.

G-d transforms the nations' love for Israel to hatred, and only in that way do Israel leave the exile. We saw this already with Jacob, where only the hatred of Laban and his sons moved him to return to Eretz Israel: "Jacob saw Laban's face. Laban was not acting toward him as he had before. The L-rd said to Jacob, 'Go back to your birthplace'" (Gen. 31:2-3). And regarding Egypt it says, "He turned [Egypt's] heart to hate His people, to deal craftily with His servants" (Ps. 105:25).

It is the same in our day. We have paid a cruel price for the modern establishment of a Jewish commonwealth and the ingathering of the exiles. Only the nations' hatred, which led to the destruction of countless communities, made the remnants leave for Eretz Israel.

**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**