

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 302**

**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**

MASHIACH BEN YOSEF

**G-D WILL DERIVE JOY FROM PUNISHING THE
NATIONS, AS IN SIFRI (IBID., 326): "WHEN G-D
JUDGES THE NATIONS, IT BRINGS HIM JOY"**

Our sages said (avodah zarah 3b): G-d sits and laughs about them, as it says, "He Who sits in the heavens laughs" (Ps. 2:4). R. Yitzchak said, "There is no laughter before G-d except for that one day"... 15 this so? Did not R. Yehudah say in the name of Rav, "There are twelve hours in the day, and during the first three, G-d sits and studies Torah, in the second three He sits and judges the entire world... during the third He sits and sustains the entire world from the unicorn to the lice egg, and during the fourth He sits and laughs with the Leviathan, as it says, "This Leviathan, which You have made to laugh with" (Ibid., 104:26)? R. Nachman bar Yitzchak said, "G-d laughs with His creatures, but He only laughs at His creatures on that one day.

We likewise find (Eliyahu Rabbah, 13): G-d said to Israel... There is no laughter before Me except for one moment When is that? When the nations arrogantly say, "With how many warriors is He attacking us? Let Him send a million! With how many horsemen is He attacking us? Let Him send a million!"... In that moment I laugh, as it says, "Why are the nations in an uproar... He Who sits in the Heavens laughs" (Ps. 2:1,4).

G-d's joy and laughter are poetic justice for all the nations' ridicule and rejoicing at Israel's calamity. As our sages said (Pesikta Rabbati, 34) regarding the final redemption, "Whoever sees them [Le., when the nations see Israel being redeemed], sits and says, 'We laughed in vain. In vain did we mock their words.'"

Our sages also said (Mechilta, Beshalach, Mesechta DeAmalek, 2): Every nation which sets out to harm Israel is punished accordingly. Our sages always said, "A person shall be treated in accordance with his treatment of others":

"The very thing they plotted came on them" (Ex. 18:11).

And Bamidbar Rabbah, 11:1, teaches: Surely He scorns the scorers" (Prov. 3:34)... Each day, [the nations] mock Israel over their suffering, as it says, "With your mouth you have boasted against Me" (Ezek. 35:13). Yet, in the future, G-d will treat them the way they treat others

How intensely the nations subjugated and tormented Israel! For this they will taste G-d's revenge. Observe how severe is their sin towards Israel, for it brings upon them more Divine anger than all their other sins.

Our sages said (Mechilta, Beshalach, Mesechta De'vayehi, Petichta): It is not bad enough that the nations treat Israel disrespectfully, but they murder them with murders one more cruel than the next. In this regard it says, "I will gather all the nations and bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat" (Joel 4:2). Lest I think the nations will be judged for idolatry, sexual sin and murder, the verse adds, "Regarding My people and My heritage Israel" (Ibid.)...

The result of that judgment is this: "Judah shall remain forever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation" (Ibid v. 20); and, "I have acquitted Israel, but not those who shed their blood; the L-rd will dwell in Zion" (Ibid., v. 21). When will "the L-rd dwell in Zion"? When G-d "acquits Israel, but not those who shed their blood." (A similar source is Tanchuma, Beshalach, 5).

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