

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL  
BULLETIN 320**

**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 BOOK ZION TODAY**

**SINCE THE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN ORTHODOXY AND SECULAR ZIONISM, VOICES PRAISING THE GREATNESS AND SANCTITY OF THE HOLY LAND HAVE BECOME STILL. BASIC PRINCIPLES WHICH HAD ALWAYS BEEN CLEAR TO THE JEWISH PEOPLE HAVE BEEN FORGOTTEN. HOW MUCH DOES EVEN A BEN-TORAH TODAY KNOW ABOUT THE SPECIAL QUALITIES OF ERETZ ISRAEL, OF THE MITZVOS OF THE LAND? EVEN THE MOST OBSERVANT TAKE TRIPS TO CHUTZ LA'ARETZ, SOMETHING THE HALACHA FORBIDS. COULD THERE BE GREATER IRONY THAN THIS: THE TORAH COMMUNITY, WHICH CHERISHED THE MEMORY OF ERETZ ISRAEL SO THROUGHOUT THE AGES, NOW LEAVES LOVE OF ZION TO THE "SECULAR"?**

**The merit of being in Eretz Israel is recognized by the halacha. "If a man marries a woman and after ten years she has no children, he should divorce her 'and pay her the amount specified in her marriage contract...but years spent in chutz la'Aretz are not counted" (Yevamos 14)."If a man and his wife were in chutz la' Aretz for five or ten years and then they came to Eretz Israel, they are given another ten years from the time of their arrival. Maybe they will have children because of the merit of Eretz Israel" (Ramban on Bereishis 16) In contrast, "chutz la'Aretz has no merit. Indeed, it is a transgression to live there" (Rashi, Berachos 57).**

**"The Jews in chutz la'Aretz are idol worshippers in purity. How? An idol worshipper makes a party for his son and invites all the Jews in his town. Even if they eat their own food and drink their own drinks, and are served by one of their own servants, the Torah considers it as if they had eaten from sacrifices of idol worship" (Avoda Zara 8).**

**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**