

BS`D
ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 4

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

**THE GREAT FOOLISHNESS AND SIN OF NOT
LIVING IN ERETZ ISRAEL**

Better is a dry piece of bread with tranquility in it than a house full of quarrelsome feasts (Mishle 17:1) R. Yochanan said, "This refers to Eretz Israel, for even if a person eats (dry) bread and salt every day while dwelling in Eretz Israel, he is assured a portion in the World to Come...Than a house full of quarrelsome feasts: This refers to Chutz La Aretz, which is full of violence and robbery." (Yalkut Shimoni 2:956)

Said the Holy One Blessed be He: A small group in the Land of Israel is dearer to Me than a full Sanhedrin outside the Land. (Yerushalmi, Sanhedrin 86)

One should always live in the Land of Israel, even in a city where the majority are idol worshippers, and not in chutz laAretz, even in a city where the majority are Jews. (Kesubos 110); also included in the Rambam (Hilchos Melachim Chapter 5)

As long as you are in the Land of Canaan, I am your G-d; when you are not in the land - I am not your G-d. (Tosefta, Avoda Zara 85)

"He who dwells in Eretz Israel is like one who has a G-d, and he who dwells outside the Land is like one who does not have a G-d" (Ketuvot 110b)

The people of Israel who are outside the Land worship false gods in purity." (Avoda Zara 8)

There is no Torah like the Torah of Eretz Israel. (Bereshit Rabba 16, 7)

There are ten measures of Torah in the world. Nine are in Eretz Israel and one in the rest of the world. (Esther Rabba)

Hashem will bless you from Zion and you will see the good of Yerushalaim all the days of your life (Tehillim 128:5)

Fortunate are they who live in Eretz Israel for they have neither sin nor transgression, not the living and not the dead (Midrash Shocher Tov 85)

"If you desire to see the Presence of the Shechina in this world, study Torah in Eretz Israel." (Midrash Tehillim 105)

There's no happiness except in dwelling in Eretz Israel (Ohr ha Chayyim ha Kaddosh Devarim 26:l)

"There is no greater abrogation of the Torah (Bittul Torah) than when the Jews were exiled from their place" (Chagigah 5b).

Elimelech, Machlon, and Kilion were the greatest men of their generation - leaders of the generation... Why were they punished? Because they left Eretz Israel. (Baba Basra 91)

Yehoshua said to the people of Israel: How long will you be remiss in going up to possess the Land which the Lord, G-d of your fathers, has given you? (Yehoshua 18, 3)

A person who sees himself in a dream unclothed in Babylonia is without sin (Rashi: Because outside the land there is no merit, only sin, and one who stands without clothing is like one lacking those sins); in Eretz Israel, he is without mitzvos (Rashi: Because there are many mitzvos there, and to be naked is a sign of being without mitzvos). (Massechet Berachos 57a)

Why did Moshe Rabbenu yearn to enter Eretz Israel? Did he need to eat its fruits, or to satisfy himself from its bounty? Rather, Moshe said: The people of Israel have been given many commandments, and they cannot be fulfilled except in the Land of Israel. (Sota 14)

Rabbi Yehuda Chai Alkalai writes in a Kol Korai, "Because Israel didn't rise up to return to our Land, and to the inheritance of our forefathers, the decrees began, the expulsions and slaughters, for the matter is dependent on the repentance of returning to Eretz Israel (Kol Korai, Rabbi Yehuda Chai Alkalai. The Writings of Rav Alkalai.)

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)