

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 58**

**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**

**HASHEM WARNED ELIMELECH AND HIS SONS
REPEATEDLY TO GO TO ERETZ YSRAEL YET THEY
DID NOT LISTEN AND DIED FOR THEIR SIN**

We find this in Midrash Tanchuma regarding Elimelech and his sons:

They dwelt there [Moav] about ten years (Ruth 1:4). All of these years, the Holy One Blessed be He gave them warnings, perhaps they will repent and return to Eretz Yisrael. When they did not repent, He began to smite their cattle and camels. When they [still] did not realize that they must repent, they died immediately. (Tanchuma, BeHar 3)

Behold, G-d's warnings were not delivered by prophets (for we do not find that prophets went to them in Moav). Rather, the afflictions and mishaps that befell them took the place of the prophets to arouse them to repent. Now, in what way were they to repent? Only by returning to Eretz Yisrael. But, since they did not repent, and they did not even realize that they needed to repent, they were punished with loss of property and, eventually, death (may the Merciful One protect us). The Midrash also says that a number of times Yaakov Avinu did not understand why he was being punished, and it was because he did not hurry to return to the Land of his forefathers. Now, it is well known that all of Yaakov Avinu's experiences reflect what will happen to his descendants at the end of days. Therefore, Chazal were referring to us when they said these things, for we too do not understand why we are being punished so frequently. It is because we do not hurry to return to the Land of our forefathers.

(FROM EM HA BANIM SEMECHA, RABBI YSACHAR SHLOMO TEICHTAL, ZTK'L)

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