

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 59**

**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
THE JEWISH PEOPLE WOULD BE DESTROYED, G-D FORBID,
IF THEY WOULD NOT DWELL IN ERETZ YISRAEL**

The Rambam writes in Sefer HaMitzvot, Positive Commandments 153

I will explain further. Let us suppose, for example, that there would be no Jews living in Eretz Yisrael – G-d forbid that He should do such a thing, for He has promised not to destroy the remnants of the nation completely. [Let us suppose] also that there would be no Jewish court (beit din) there, and that there would be no beit din in the Diaspora which was ordained in Eretz Yisrael. [Under these circumstances], our calculations would not help us at all. For we may not calculate the months or establish leap years in the Diaspora, unless we fulfill the conditions mentioned above. For, out of Zion the Torah will go forth (Yeshayah 2:3).

I quoted this in its entirety because it helps us fully comprehend the Rambam's opinion. He considers the settlement of our Holy Land an essential foundation [of our faith]. His statement teaches that the existence of the entire holy nation is bound to the settlement of the Land to such a degree that the entire nation would dissolve if the Jewish people would cease to exist in Eretz Yisrael, God forbid. The commentator on the Rambam's Hilchot Kiddush HaChodesh" quotes him as follows: "If, G-d forbid, the Jews would perish from Eretz Yisrael - may HaShem be blessed because He has promised us in the Torah not to destroy this nation completely." Thus, he, too, understands the Rambam to mean that the Jewish people would be destroyed, G-d forbid, if they would not dwell in Eretz Yisrael. This concept is utterly astounding!

In my opinion, this is so because Eretz Yisrael is the heart of the nation, as our mentor, the godly man from Cordovero, writes in his holy work, Or Ne'erav. The Chacham Tzvi writes that no creature can live without a heart. Therefore, when the Jewish nation is not in Eretz Yisrael, it is as if its heart is removed and its entire life force is abolished.

(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