

BS`D
ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 6

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

**WHAT HAPPENS IN ERETZ ISRAEL IS THE
GREATEST SIGN OF THE IMMINENT REDEMPTION**

The Midrash states (Eicha Rabba I:41): "R. Abba bar Kahana said, 'If you see benches filled with Babylonians in Eretz Israel, anticipate the footsteps of Mashiach. Why? For, it says, He spread a net for my feet (Eichah I:13)

The Torah Temimah (Eicha I:141) writes: "If you see benches filled with Babylonians in Eretz Israel" means, if you see many Diaspora Jews ascending from Babylonia to Eretz Israel, it is a sign that the Holy One Blessed be He calculated the end of days.

The Radak writes (Radak, Tehillim 146:3) Salvation is solely in the hands of Hashem, and He brings it about through mortals, as He did with Cyrus during the Babylonian exile. In the future, as well, Hashem will bring Israel's redemption through gentile kings, by inspiring them to set the Jews free.

R. Abba said, "There is no clearer sign of the end of days than this verse: But you, O mountains of Israel, will give forth your branches and yield your fruit to My people Israel, for they are soon to come (Yechezkel 36:8)." (Sanhedrin 98a) Rashi explains, "When Eretz Israel gives forth its fruit in abundance the end will be near, and there is no clearer sign of the end of days".

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)

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

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)