

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 72**

**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**

Realize this, o fellow Jew! From now on do not seek rest anywhere except by your true mother, Eretz Yisrael. Only our true mother will console us after all of the severe hardships that have befallen us, and after all of the pain that the stepmother has inflicted upon us. The prophet says, Like a man whose mother consoles him, so will I console you, and in Jerusalem you will be consoled (Yeshayah 66:13). That is, we will only find safety and consolation by our true mother, Eretz Yisrael. Thus, the prophet says, And in Jerusalem, which represents all of Eretz Yisrael, you will be consoled. Let us no longer put our faith in our stepmother and, thereby, remain in the lands of exile.

How much money did our ancestors invest in these lands? They built palaces, castles, and great halls, because each one of them thought, This is my resting place forever; here I will dwell, for I have desired it (Tehillim 132:14). They completely disregarded their true mother, Eretz Yisrael. The Shelah and the Chatam Sofer bemoan the fact that some Jews become completely absorbed in Chutz LaAretz. They build themselves houses and palaces and invest all of their silver and gold in "Chutz LaAretz" property, in order to enhance and expand the stepmother's boundaries. But, they neglect to establish the boundaries of the widow, our righteous mother who cries and laments over us. They do not even consider doing anything for her benefit. They only care and desire to make an honorable living and build a big house with a courtyard made of hewn stones. [They build it] to last for many years, so that they can bequeath it to their children and grandchildren who will be born on foreign soil, [for] they hope to see many offspring and live long lives in exile.

In this way, we lost hundreds and thousands of years in exile and gave all of our strength and wealth to our stepmother. And now, we "merited" to receive her expression of gratitude for all of the effort that we expended on her behalf. She took a staff and hit us cruelly and mercilessly. She wounded our entire body; from the sole of the foot to the head, there is nothing whole. (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