

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 82**

**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

**HAD WE BEEN WORTHY OF CONSTANTLY THINKING
OF ERETZ YISRAEL, AND HAD WE NOT BECOME
SETTLED HERE IN THE DIASPORA, WE WOULD HAVE
READ, NO MAN WILL DESIRE YOUR LAND**

Had we not stood with both of our feet, our heads, and our hearts here in the Diaspora, forgetting completely about our Holy Land, our money would not have fallen into Eisav's hands. Woe to all of the Jewish money that fell into Eisav's hands here in the lands of Europe. How much of our Holy Land could we have redeemed and built with that money?! This happened because we stood with both of our feet here in the Diaspora. We put so much faith in our sojourn here in exile that we disregarded our Land and our inheritance. Yaakov Avinu stood in the Diaspora with only one foot, while his other foot, his eyes, and his heart were in the Holy Land. Therefore, foreigners had no control over his money. We, however, did not follow his example. Therefore, we have reached our current situation. This is the cause of our troubles.

Apparently, this explains the following Midrash: If we were worthy we would have read, No man will desire your Land (Shemot 34:24). But now that we were unworthy, we read, The persecutor spread out his hand on all of her pleasant things (Eichah 1:10). (Petichta DeEichah Rabbah 11)

That is, had we been worthy of constantly thinking of Eretz Yisrael, and had we not become settled here in the Diaspora, we would have read, No man will desire your Land. For then, even our sojourn in exile would have been considered dwelling in Eretz Yisrael, as Sefer Chareidim and Sefer HaChayim (by the Maharal's brother)

(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**