

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL  
BULLETIN 88**

**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 LEADERS OF THE COMMUNITY ARE  
RESPONSIBLE AS REGARDS TO PROMOTING  
SETTLING IN ERETZ YISRAEL**

At that time, the leaders of the congregation spread evil propaganda against Eretz Yisrael. Therefore, today, as well, the leaders of the congregation must propagandize for the sake of Eretz Yisrael, in order to pay off their "bad loan." They must be the first ones to open the nation's eyes. They must explain that there is no reason for us to remain in the foreign, impure, and polluted atmosphere of exile, nor to expend our energies in vain while the Gentiles rob the fruits of our labor from before our very eyes. The leaders must speak to the people in this fashion and arouse within them a tire and a spark of love for our desirable Land. This alone will make us worthy of redemption, as I cited above from the Beit Yosefs Maggid. The Maharsha also writes that when the people of Israel cherish the stones and dust of Eretz Yisrael they bring the appointed time of redemption closer. Thus, the leaders will unite all of Klal Yisrael together for the sake of Eretz Yisrael, and then our "bad debt" will be paid off.

However, if the leaders neglect this matter, there is a danger that they themselves will have to pay for the bad loan that they took back then. The halachah states that if two partners borrow money from someone, the lender can collect the entire debt from whichever partner he wishes, because each partner becomes a guarantor for his friend.<sup>565</sup> The same applies to the "bad debt" that the spies and their entire generation incurred. Since they all joined together [against Eretz Yisrael], they became like partners who borrowed from the Holy One Blessed be He. Therefore, if HaShem wants He can collect the debt - which Klal Yisrael incurred by causing the exile - entirely from Israel's leaders. Moreover, the leaders have a greater obligation to pay off this debt, because they were the primary cause of this "loan" to begin with.

This explains the words of our mentor, the Or HaChayim. He writes that Israel's leaders throughout the generations will be held responsible for the fact that we are still in exile, because they should have inspired the Children of Israel to love Eretz Yisrael.

**(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**