

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL  
BULLETIN 96**

**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**

**IF YOU THINK THE ZIONISTS WERE WICKED THEN  
PLEASE READ ABOUT GIDEON, LEARN MORE ABOUT  
OUR PAST HEROES, THE HEROES OF THE TANACH**

The verse says about Gideon, “Go with this strength of yours and you shall save Israel from the hand of Midyan” (Shoftim 6:14).

Our mentor, the Chatam Sofer, explains:

In order to save Israel from its enemy's clutches, a generation needs four tzaddikim who join together in the mission of salvation. Scripture calls them, four craftsmen (Zecharyah 2:3), and we say in our prayers, "Four craftsmen as in the vision." The verse says about this, How good and how pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity (Tehillim 133:1). Now, Rashi explains on (Shoftim 7:13), as follows: "Gideon's generation was clear of tzaddikim."

[That is to say], Gideon did not have three helpers in that generation. However, Chazal state, "One Torah scholar from Eretz Yisrael is like two from Babylonia. And, one of us [from Babylonia] who ascends to Eretz Yisrael is like two of them" (Ketuvot 75a).

Thus, any tzaddik from the Diaspora who ascends to Eretz Yisrael is equal to four tzaddikim. Now, it seems to me that he does not have to actually ascend. Even if he just desires to ascend, but fails, he is considered like four tzaddikim and is worthy to have a miracle occur on his account. For, anyone who contemplates doing a mitzvah, but is unable to do so, Scripture considers it as if he did it (Berachot 6a).

Now, in those days it was unanimously accepted as halachah that Eretz Yisrael had the status of Chutz LaAretz, and Gideon was distressed by this. Thus, he was exactly like a tzaddik in the Diaspora who sorely wants to ascend to Eretz Yisrael. Therefore, he was equal to four tzaddikim and was able to save Israel. This is the meaning of Go with this strength of yours and you shall save Israel (Derashot Chatam Sofer, Derush for Shabbat HaGadol 5558 [1798], vol. 2, p. 233)

Behold, it is well known that Gideon was one of the "empty ones." (See Rosh HaShanah 25a) He had no merits, other than the fact that he invoked merit upon Israel and sorely wanted to ascend to Eretz Yisrael (as the Chatam Sofer writes). This alone made him a tzaddik equal to the "four craftsmen" and enabled him to

save Israel.

**Therefore, it is forbidden to degrade anyone who sacrifices himself for the public welfare and sorely desires to ascend to Eretz Yisrael. For it is possible that today, as well, salvation will come to all of Israel through a person like this, as it came to our forefathers through Gideon. A word to the wise is sufficient. May HaShem speedily gladden us with salvation and compassion. Amen, so may it be G-d's will.**

**(FROM EM HA BANIM SEMECHA, RABBI YSACHAR SHLOMO TEICHTAL, ZTK'L)**

**SO ALL THOSE ZIONISTS WHO GAVE THEIR LIFE TO ESTABLISH JEWISH SOVEREIGNTY IN ERETZ YISRAEL ARE INDEED VERY MERITORIOUS, CERTAINLY MORE THAN ALL THOSE WHO DO NOTHING FROM THE TEMPORARY COMFORT OF EXILE.**

**THEY PERFORMED A MITZVAH WITH SELF SACRIFICE, RISKING THEIR LIVES. HAVE YOU EVER DONE A MITZVAH RISKING YOUR LIFE? WITH SELF SACRIFICE?**

**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**