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**ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 97**

**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

**RAV TZVI YEHUDA KOOK ZTK'L TAUGHT US TO SEE THE CONCRETE
EXPRESSION OF THE WORDS OF OUR PROPHETS AND SAGES IN THE
EVENTS WE WERE EXPERIENCING IN ERETZ ISRAEL TODAY**

Rav Tzvi Yehuda made us see Hashem in everything. Not just in our personal lives, but on a global, historical level. When you left his small apartment after a class, and hopped on a bus back to the Yeshiva, it suddenly wasn't an ordinary ride. The Yemenites, Moroccans, Americans, and Russians riding with you were Jews whom Hashem was gathering from all over the world. We were all a part of the promised redemption. The soldier at your side wasn't just an ordinary soldier. He was Kadosh, engaged in the mitzvah of guarding the Jewish State. And when you stepped off the bus, the grapes on the vines across from the Yeshiva were more than just fruit. They were signs of our redemption - the words of our Sages in front of our eyes: When the Land of Israel yields her fruits in abundance, there's no surer sign of the Exile's end (Rashi to Sanhedrin 97a)...

...He taught us to see the concrete expression of the words of our prophets and Sages in the events we were experiencing in Israel today. The vision of the return of the Jewish people to Israel, and our yearning for Jerusalem, is the focus of all of our prayers. When Rabbi Kook explained how verses of Torah and prophecy were happening today, our lives were uplifted from our own personal dramas, to a drama which spanned all of our nation, and all Jewish history. Our individual lives were elevated to the higher life of the Clal...

...What happened to Yaacov is a sign for his children, and for the national transformation, and completion, which the Jewish people are experiencing today; as the prophecy says, (Ezekiel, 36:24-29) "For I will take you from among the nations, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own Land...A new heart I will also give you, and a new spirit I will put within you...And you shall dwell in the Land which I gave to your fathers, and you shall be My people, and I will be your G-d". Rav Tzvi Yehuda pointed to the order of the verse. Only after we return to the Land, and are influenced by its special transforming powers, are our true, healthy spirits renewed (From Sefer Torat Eretz Yisrael)

**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**