BSD

ERETZ ISRAEL BULLETIN 287

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 FROM THE WRITINGS OF RABBI MEIR DAVID KAHANE ZTKL

WE MUST EXAMINE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE REDEMPTION AND OF THE WAR OF GOG AND MAGOG. THE CHIEF PRINCIPLE IS THAT ISRAEL WILL BE TOTALLY ISOLATED, WITHOUT ANY ALLY

As it says (Deut. 32:36): "The L-rd will take up the cause of His people and comfort His servants. He will have seen that their power is gone, that they are nothing, kept away and abandoned" Redemption will come when Israel become like efes, nothing, because they are alone. "Atzur," too, implies that they are alone, kept away from the whole world, as in, "Women have been kept away [atzura] from us" (I Sam. 21:6); and as with the Sabbath and holidays which are called atzeret , kept away from all work. As for azuv, abandoned, that too implies isolation, for they will be abandoned by the whole world. Our sages likewise said (Sanhedrin 97a), "The son of David will not come... until they despair of redemption, as it says, 'they are nothing, kept away and abandoned' - so to speak, there will be no support or help for Israel."

Israel will be isolated from the whole world, whether they merit redemption "in haste" or whether redemption instead comes "in its time." However it will be, redemption depends entirely on it being proven that Hashem is G-d, that He is alone and that there is no other.

Only through Israel's isolation can it be proven both to the nations and to Israel that G-d is omnipotent, and that the entire universe is under His control. This applies especially regarding Israel, for as long as they have even one ally, they will be certain that salvation will come from that nation. The proof to all that G-d is the Savior and Redeemer will be through salvation coming precisely when Israel are "nothing, left and abandoned." Israel's "aloneness" on that day of redemption is what will prove to them and the world that there is none besides G-d. Thus it says, "The L-rd alone shall be exalted on that day" (Isaiah 2:11). This refers to a day of complete redemption and of victory over all the nations who attack Israel, when only G-d stands to save them and they are a nation dwelling alone

REMOVING THE EXILE FROM ISRAEL IS TEN TIMES HARDER THAN

REMOVING ISRAEL FROM THE EXILE TO OUR SORROW, THIS

DISEASE HAS EVEN SMITTEN TORAH SCHOLARS.

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