BSD

ERETZ ISRAEL BULLETIN 291

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

R. Chanina said, "The unintelligent think that the phrase, 'I will not be yours' (Hosea I:9) means, 'I will not be your G-d,' but it really means as follows: Although you are 'not My people,' i.e., that you seek to separate from Me, even so, My intentions are not yours. Rather, against your will you will be Mine. It likewise says, 'That which comes into your mind shall never come about' (Ezek. 20:32). What shall I do to you? 'As I live, says the L-rd G-d, surely with a mighty hand, an outstretched arm, and with anger poured out, will I be King over you' (Ezek 20:33). We, thus, learn of G-d's love for Israel."

Since G-d loves Israel, just as He will not destroy them physically, so will He not let them commit spiritual suicide through willing assimilation, or even let them remain in the exile in comfort and tranquility. If Israel do not leave the exile of their own free will, G-d will banish them angrily, inaugurating the ingathering of the exiles, and this, too, in hopes of their repenting.

It, thus, says (Ezek. 11:17-18,20):I will gather you from the peoples, assemble you out of the countries where you have been scattered, and give you the Land of Israel. They shall come there and remove from it all the detestable things and abominations That they may walk in My statutes, and keep My ordinances and do them. They shall be My people, and I will be their G-d.

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