BSD

ERETZ ISRAEL BULLETIN 298

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

KOL HATOR FURTHER SAYS (CH. 2, PART I:39):"JOSEPH RECOGNIZED HIS BROTHERS BUT THEY DID NOT RECOGNIZE HIM" (GEN. 42:8): THIS IS ONE OF JOSEPH'S ATTRIBUTES. NOT JUST IN HIS GENERATION, BUT IN EVERY GENERATION, MASHIACH BEN YOSEF RECOGNIZES HIS BROTHERS AND THEY DO NOT RECOGNIZE HIM. IT IS AN ACT OF SATAN WHICH CONCEALS MASHIACH BEN YOSEF'S ATTRIBUTES, SUCH THAT THE JEWS UNFORTUNATELY DO NOT RECOGNIZE HIS FOOTSTEPS, AND IN FACT SCOFF AT THEM

... If not for this, our troubles would already be over. If Israel "recognized Joseph," Mashiach ben Yosef's footsteps comprising the ingathering of the exiles, etc., we would already be completely redeemed.

Kol HaTor (Ch. 2/ Part 2:2) quotes the Gra's holy words: Our chief effort on behalf of the ingathering must be to produce men of faith worthy of being the two Messiahs in the gates of Jerusalem and of restoring the Divine Presence, the aim of complete and true redemption and Kiddush Hashem. According to our master, the Gra, we must come to G-d's aid through men of valor, the two Messiahs, and learn in practical terms everything there is to know about their characteristics and duties.

The general duty of the two messiahs, Mashiach ben Yosef and Mashiach ben David, together throughout the generations, is defense and war against the three chiefs of impurity - Esau, Ishmael and the erev rav, the "mixed multitude." Mashiach ben Yosef's special duty is confronting Esau, the impurity of the left, that of Mashiach ben David is con fronting Ishmael, the impurity on the right, and together they work against Esau and Ishmael, the ox and donkey of impurity. The mating of Esau and Ishmael comes through Armelius, angelic prince of the erev rav, and it can destroy Israel and the whole world, Heaven help us! The main striving of the erev rav is to mate Esau and Ishmael and separate the two Messiahs, and our own main battle is to shatter and rout the power of the erev rav, the impurity of evil Armelius, from Israel.

The erev rav is our greatest enemy. It is what separates between the two Messiahs. Its impurity operates only via indirect deception. Hence, the war against

the erev rav is the hardest and most bitter, and we must gird ourselves with our last strength toward this end. Whoever does not actively take part in the war against the erev rav automatically becomes a partner to its impurity, and whoever he is, he is better off not having been born. The main strength of the erev rav is in the gates of Jerusalem, especially at the entrance to the city on the western dividing line.

The erev rav is that part of the Jewish People intent on war against G-d and against the truth and credibility of His Torah. With them we face an uncompromising battle to the finish, and the Gra emphasized this in his call to holy war against them. When he says that whoever does not actively fight the erev rav becomes their partner and is better off never having been born, he means to warn against the distorted tolerance and groundless love which are the main impediments in this war. Rather, says the Gra, our task is to assist our Messiahs in their task, and the task of Mashiach ben Yosef is once more emphasized there (Chapter I:6): "The general purpose of Mashiach ben Yosef is in three things: uncovering the Torah's secrets, the ingathering of the exiles, and eradicating the spirit of impurity from the Land." Whoever does not take part in this, strengthens the hand of those who block the way to redemption "in haste," thereby bringing upon us tragedies, grief and destruction, Heaven help us! Whoever refuses to fight them sheds blood.

It thus emerges from the study of Mashiach ben Yosef, the Inaugural Messiah and Messiah of War: I. Already at Creation, G-d prepared the Messiah (in other words, two Messiahs), as our sages said (Pesikta Rabbati, 36): What is meant by "In Your light we see light" (Ps. 36:10)? Whatever light the Congregation of Israel sees is the light of the Messiah, as it says, "G-d saw that the light was good" (Gen. I:4). This teaches that G-d foresaw the Messiah and his deeds before the world was created, and stored him away under His throne to be Messiah to his generation. Satan said, "Master of the Universe! To whom does the light stored under Your throne belong?" G-d responded, "To the one who in the future will counter and humiliate you." Satan then said, "Master of the Universe! Show him to me! G-d replied, "Come and see him." Once he saw him, he was shocked and fell on his lace and said, "This is surely the Messiah who is going to push me and all the angelic princes of the nations into Hell."

I brought the rest of this Midrash previously:

At that moment the nations became excited and said, "Master of the Universe! Who is this into whose hands we shall fall? What is his name? What is his nature?" G-d replied, "He is the Messiah and his name is Ephraim, My righteous Messiah."

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