BSD

ERETZ ISRAEL BULLETIN 301

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

MASHIACH BEN YOSEF

SIMILARLY WE FIND (TANCHUMA, TAZRIA, 8): THE MESSIAH, WHO WILL IN THE FUTURE PUNISH GOG AND MAGOG AND HIS FORCES, WILL GROW UP WITH THEM THERE IN THEIR COUNTRY, AS IT SAYS, "THERE SHALL THE CALF FEED, AND THERE SHALL HE LIE DOWN AND CONSUME ITS BRANCHES" (ISAIAH 27:10).

Our sages further said (Eliyahu Rabbah, 5):Just as the nations torment Israel and oppress them and grind their bones and flesh until their souls depart, and no one cares about them, so shall G-d assemble them for judgment on the mountains of Israel and feed their flesh to the birds of the heavens and the beasts of the fields, and He will not care about them, as it says, "And, you son of man, thus says the L-rd G-d: Speak to every feathered bird and to every beast of the field. Assemble yourselves and come. Gather yourselves on every side to My festive meal that I prepare for you, a great feast upon the mountains of Israel, that you may eat meat and drink blood" (Ezek. 39:17).

Our sages said (Tanchuma, Emor, 13): Woe to the wicked, for they engage in evil designs against Israel, and each of them says, "My design is better than yours"... Gog, too, will talk like this in the future, saying, "Our predecessors were fools for they engaged in designs against Israel. Did they not know that Israel have a Patron in Heaven? I shall not do that. Rather, first I will wage war against their Patron, and then against them." Thus it says, "The kings of the earth set themselves; the rulers take counsel together against the L-rd and against His anointed" (Ps. 2:2). G-d said to him, "Evildoer! Against Me you wish to wage war? I swear that I shall wage war against you." Thus it says, "The L-rd shall go forth as a mighty man He shall stir up passion

like a man of war" (Isaiah 42:13); and, "Then shall the L-rd go forth and fight against those nations" (Zechariah 14:3).

The call to war against G-d and Israel is what will bring the end of redemption, which will come in order to eradicate the greatest Chilul Hashem that there could be.

Tanchuma (Noach, 18) teaches: In three places mankind con tended with G-d. One is at the Tower of Babel. One is in Joshua's day, as it says, "They gathered together to fight Joshua and Israel with one accord" (Josh. 9:2). And one is in the days of Gog and Magog, as it says, "The kings of the earth set themselves; the rulers take counsel together" (Ps. 2:2).

Regarding the gentiles' punishment for this, our sages said (Tanchuma, Kedoshim, I):"The L-rd of hosts shall be exalted in judgment" (Isaiah 5:16): When is G-d exalted in His world? When He executes judgment against the nations, as it says, "The L-rd stands up to plead. He stands to judge the people" (Ibid., 3:13). It also says, "As I looked, thrones were cast up" (Daniel 7:9). What are these "thrones"?.. The thrones of the nations, which in the future shall be overthrown.

And Sifri (Ha'azinu, 325) teaches, "Their time is about to come' (Deut. 32:35): When G-d punishes the nations, He makes their whole world a tempest

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