**BSD** 

## ERETZ ISRAEL BULLETIN 310

## 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

## MANY JEWS JUST WAIT IN THE EXILE UNTIL THE MESSIAH ARRIVES, NOT TO REACH ERETZ ISRAEL. THEY DO NOT ACT BASED ON TRUST OF G-D FOR THE SAKE OF HIS KINGDOM AND THE SANCTIFICATION OF HIS NAME.

R. Yehuda ben Betera commented regarding Ex. 6:9: "They would not listen to Moses due to their disappointment": Is there anyone who when told good news, such as, "You've just become the father of a baby boy," or "Your master is setting you free," remains unhappy? Why then would they not listen to Moses? The point is that it was hard for them to cease idolatry, as it says, "Then I said to them: 'Cast away every man the abominations of his eyes. Do not defile yourselves with the idols of Egypt' They rebelled against Me and would not hearken to Me. But I acted for My name's sake, that it should not be profaned" (Ezek. 20:7-9).

We see that our ancestors found it "hard to cease idolatry" since they were immersed in it and it had become a natural, inseparable part of their lives. The plain, sad truth is that the same applies in our own times as well. Due to the exile and the alien culture which have permeated our midst, "it is hard for us to cease" fearing the non-Jew and hard to reject the temptations of the exile.

## 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