**BSD** 

## ERETZ ISRAEL BULLETIN 352

## 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 BOOK ZION TODAY

SINCE THE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN ORTHODOXY AND SECULAR ZIONISM, VOICES PRAISING THE GREATNESS AND SANCTITY OF THE HOLY LAND HAVE BECOME STILL. BASIC PRINCIPLES WHICH HAD ALWAYS BEEN CLEAR TO THE JEWISH PEOPLE HAVE BEEN FORGOTTEN. HOW MUCH DOES EVEN A BEN-TORAH TODAY KNOW ABOUT THE SPECIAL QUALITIES OF ERETZ ISRAEL, OF THE MITZVOS OF THE LAND? EVEN THE MOST OBSERVANT TAKE TRIPS TO CHUTZ LA'ARETZ, SOMETHING THE HALACHA FORBIDS. COULD THERE BE GREATER IRONY THAN THIS: THE TORAH COMMUNITY, WHICH CHERISHED THE MEMORY OF ERETZ ISRAEL SO THROUGHOUT THE AGES, NOW LEAVES LOVE OF ZION TO THE "SECULAR"?

The holiness granted Eretz Yisroel by the presence of the shechina is an intrinsic part of the Land, and is not dependent on any act of 'sanctification' by the Jewish people. This is the holiness our forefathers yearned for. It was not cancelled by the destruction of the Temple.

There is another reason that the Revival of the Dead will take place in Eretz Yisroel: (Mabit, Beis E/okim) "At the time of the Revival, the strength of the evil inclination will be annulled. However, some part of the evil inclination will remain, as in the first man before he sinned and ate from the tree. For if not, there would be no room to reward good. If the soul returns to the body in Eretz Yisroel, it will not be defiled or tainted by impurity from chutz /a'Aretz. The return of the soul to the body is like birth...Life in Eretz Yisroel adds extra holiness."

Burial in Eretz Yisroel brings atonement for sins. "Rav Annan said: One who is buried in Eretz Yisroel is as one buried under the altar, as is stated, 'and you will make me an earthen altar' (Shemos 20), and 'He will forgive His land and His people" (Kesubos 111).

"Living in Eretz Yisroel is equal to all the mitzvos in the Torah" (Sifrei, Re'ay). The value of this mitzva along with the added weight of other mitzvos performed here is tremendous.

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