**BSD** 

## ERETZ ISRAEL BULLETIN 46

## 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)

## THE ONLY PLACE WORTHY OF RISKING OUR LIVES FOR IS ERETZ YISRAEL, NOW WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR IN ORDER TO COME HOME?

R. Natan comments on the verse "To those who love Me and keep My commandments (Shemot 20:6): "This refers to those who dwell in Eretz Yisrael and dedicate themselves to all of the mitzvot" (Yalkut Shimoni, Yitro 292).

Our mentor, the Magen Avraham, explains in Zayit Ra'anan: This refers to those who dwell in Eretz Yisrael." For in Eretz Yisrael there were harsh decrees and the Jews could have fled to another land. Nonetheless, they sacrificed themselves to settle the Land. This is not true of those who dwell outside the Land. When there are harsh decrees, they are liable for their souls if they do not flee to another land.

The Ramban quotes the Sifrei on the verse You shall seek out His dwelling place (Devarim 12:5): You might think that you should wait until a prophet reveals it to you. Therefore, the verse says, You shall seek out His dwelling place and come there. Seek out and find it, and then a prophet will reveal it to you, just like we find by David.

## THE CHATAM SOFER SAYS: THE HEIGHT OF OUR EVIL LOT IS DISPERSION AND EXILE

The height of our evil lot is dispersion and exile. For even though the Beit HaMikdash was destroyed, had we remained in Eretz Yisrael matters would not have been so bad. Similarly, the Rambam writes, "The murder of Gedalyah ben Achikam caused the flame of Israel to be extinguished and the Jews to be dispersed among the exiles, due to our numerous sins." Derashot Chatam Sofer, vol. 3, p. 299

(FROM EM HA BANIM SEMECHA, RABBI YSACHAR SHLOMO TEICHTAL, ZTK'L)

SO INSTEAD OF JUDGING AND CRITIZICING THE RULERS OF ERETZ ISRAEL, DO YOUR PART AND HELP BETTER THE LAND AND ITS INHABITANTS, AND MOVE THERE AND LIVE THERE, AND THROUGH THIS YOU WILL BE HONORING HA KADDOSH BARUCH HU. 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