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**ERETZ ISRAEL  
BULLETIN 163**

**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**

**INSTANCES OF GEDOLIM WHO ERRED CAN BE  
FOUND IN THE TORAH, THE PROPHETS, THE MISHNA,  
THE GEMARA, AND IN THE WRITINGS OF THE  
RISHONIM AND ACHRONIM.**

From the fall of the first man Adam, the potential for error has been a theme of man's existence. Even in the world of Torah, the freedom to err is not only a possibility, but a foundation of growth and free will, as our Sages teach, A man doesn't stand on words of Torah unless he fails in them.(Gittin 43A)

To the question, how could Torah leaders err in their opposition to the settling of Eretz Yisrael in our time, Rav Tzvi Yehuda answered:

"When one believes that the redemption of Israel, and the coming of the Mashiach, have to appear miraculously, from out of the heavens, in a way which transcends the natural order of Jife, then one fails to see the hand of Hashem in all of the events of the world. The redemption is not obligated to appear with obvious mirades, nor do es it have to be absolutely natural. Both mirades and natural world development belong to the Almighty's domain. The Rambam explains that the appearance of Mashiach is also a natural historical process, which is revealed by the ingathering of the Jewish people to Israel, and even through wars. (Rambam, Laws of Kings, 12:1-4) The redemption of the Jewish people which comes to pass in a natural way is also from the Almighty

**MORE THAN ONCE, RAV TZVI YEHUDA REMINDED US OF THE TRAGIC  
SIN OF THE SPIES, WHO HAD REBELLED AGAINST HASHEM IN THE  
WILDERNESS, BY REFUSING TO GO UP TO ISRAEL.**

...The Rabbi of Ostrovtsa exclaimed, 'What is going on here?! Hashem sent His holy children to build the Holy Land, and here people condemn them!'" (From Sefer Torat Eretz Yisrael)

**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**