ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 206

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

HOW DID DAVID, A POETIC SHEPHERD BOY TRANSFORM HIMSELF INTO BEING THE WARRIOR WHO SYSTEMATICALLY SLAUGHTERED ENEMY SOLDIERS, (SAMUEL 2, 8:2) AND WHOSE HANDS WERE BLOODIED FROM WAGING ISRAEL'S WARS? (MIDRASH TEHILLIM, 62. PESIKTA, ACHARE 2) HOW DOES A PERSON WHO SAYS, "I AM A WORM AND NOT A MAN," (TEHILLIM 22:7) COME TO SLAY A GOLIATH?

"In their inner cognizance, their war of survival, the survival of the nation, was a battle of G-d. They were bold in spirit, and they knew in the depths of the darkness to choose good and to deviate from evil - 'Though I walk through the valley of death I will fear no evil.(Tehillim 23:4)

The battle between David and the Philistine giant is familiar to everyone. In the collective conscience of man, it has become a universal symbol of the fight between the weak and the oppressor. However, in the windswept valley of Ela, the shepherd lad from Beit-Lechem saw something much more. It was not just a battle of the strong versus the weak…

…It was precisely the low level of the world and the ubiquitous wickedness which brought out the true greatness of our forefathers. The greater the adversary, the greater the strength needed to overcome it. The greater the evil, the greater the counter-balancing forces of holy goodness and valor which are needed to prevail in the fight.   FROM WAR AND PEACE, THE TEACHINGS OF RAV AVRAHAM YTZCHAK HAKOHEN KOOK ZTKL

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