BSD

ERETZ ISRAEL BULLETIN 277

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

THE WAR OF GOG, WILL SERVE TO TAUNT G-D AND G-D'S ANOINTED, ISRAEL, WILL BE BY G-D'S INITIATIVE IN ORDER TO SANCTIFY HIS NAME.

That war will show clearly that the nations' attempts to destroy Israel constitute war against G-d, as King David said (Ps. 83:4-6): They take crafty counsel against Your people They have said, "Come, let us cut them off from being a nation, that the name of Israel may be no longer remembered." For they have consulted together with one consent. Against You, do they make a covenant.

Rashi comments, "This covenant is only against You to blot out Your name. You are called 'the G-d of Israel,' and once Israel are forgotten, Your name, too, shall be forgotten." This applies to all the humiliation, oppression and attempts at annihilation to which the nations subjected Israel throughout the generations. For the evil they did to Israel, and for the resulting Chilul Hashem, G-d will come in the time of redemption to take His revenge and, thereby, sanctify His name.

When that time arrives, He will entice the nations, whose measure is already full, to attack Israel and their land, and that is the War of Gog and Magog, as it says, "I will turn you about, put hooks into your jaws and bring you forth" (Ezek. 38:4). This war was ordained for G-d to take His revenge and annihilate the nations, whether Israel repent and redemption comes speedily and majestically, or whether they lack merit and are unworthy of this, and it comes with grief and sorrow. The War of Gog will express what "a brief moment" (Isaiah 26:20) is in G-d's eyes, for what significance does even a long time have for G-d, Who transcends time and place? Only man calculates time in terms of brevity and length. G-d will determine the length of the "moment" according to Israel's merit. If they are meritorious, it will be exceedingly short. Otherwise, it will be a time of suffering, as in the descriptions of Zechariah and our sages, quoted previously.

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