

BS`D
ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 20

*"DWELLING IN ERETZ ISRAEL IS EQUIVALENT TO
ALL THE MITZVOT OF THE TORAH" (SIFREI, PARASHAT REE)*

**BEING IN THE GALUT NOWADAYS IS A GREAT
FAULT FOR JEWS. PERIOD**

From The Vilna Gaon, his student writes in Kol Ha Tor, Ch.5: "Many of the sinners in this great sin of, 'They despised the cherished land,' and also many of the guardians of Torah, will not know or understand that they are caught in this sin of the Spies, that they have been sucked into the sin of the Spies in many false ideas and empty claims, and they cover their ideas with the already proven fallacy that the mitzvah of the settlement of Israel no longer applies in our day, an opinion which has already been disproved by the giants of the world, the Rishonim and Achronim."

Again and again, Rabbi Yosef Chaim Sonnenfeld exhorted the Jews of chutz la'Aretz to come to Eretz Israel. "Whoever has the means to come live in Eretz Israel and does not, will have to answer for it in Heaven," he would say. (Halsh Al HaChoma, II, 149)

"It is important to understand that every Jew who comes to live in Israel is fulfilling a Torah commandment. This is true whether he is an observer of Torah, or not; whether he knows it is a mitzvah, or not; whether he comes with the intention to do the mitzvah, or not. Contrary to this, every Jew who dwells in the Diaspora, even if he is religious, commits a transgression, and the religious Jew's transgression is certain, because he is not acting from a lack of intention (for he knows that he is not doing a mitzvah.)" (Rav Tzvi Yehuda Kook quoted in Sefer Torat Eretz Israel)

Anyone who leaves Eretz Israel and resides outside of it, will be in your eyes as one who worships idols Massechet Ketuvot 110b

Every Jew has to resolve in his heart to go up to live in Eretz Israel...And truthfully it is an astonishment upon Israel that in every place Jews were stringent regarding the details of various Mitzvot, they spend great amounts of money in order to observe the Mitzvot, and why do you delay and abandon this beloved Mitzvah, a handle on which all the Torah depends?

Rabbi Yaakov Emden

Please Hashem, Be good to Me according to Your will, and grant me with compassion and kindness and as a free gift, that I will soon merit to come to Eretz Israel, to the Eretz ha Keddosha, the Land our forefathers inherited, the Land which all the authentic Tzaddikim, wished with all their soul and desired to be there, and most of them came there... (Tefillah of Rebbe Nachman of Bresslov)