

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL  
BULLETIN 280**

**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 BE AFTER THE JEWISH  
PEOPLE RETURN TO ERETZ ISRAEL**

**We must ponder deeply the section of Scripture regarding Gog to understand contemporary events (Ezek. 38:1-9): The word of the L-rd came to me, saying: Son of man, set your face toward Gog of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him. Say, "Thus says the L-rd G-d: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and I will turn you about, put hooks into your jaws and bring you forth, and all your army, horses and horsemen, all of them in complete attire, a great company with buckler and shield, all of them handling swords; Persia, Cush, and Put with them, all of them with shield and helmet; Gomer and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the far sides of the north, and all his bands; and many peoples with you. Be prepared, make preparations for yourselves, you and all your company that are assembled unto you, and keep watch over them. After many days, you shall be called upon. In the latter years, you shall come to the land returned from the sword, gathered out of many peoples. You shall come against the mountains of Israel, which had been a perpetual waste, but [whose inhabitants], brought out of the nations, all dwell safely. You shall ascend and come like a storm; a cloud to cover the Land, you, and all your bands, and many peoples with you."**

**The first principle we learn from these verses is that the war of Gog will be after the Jewish People return to Eretz Israel, after the first stage of the ingathering of the exiles. When Gog attacks, Israel will already be living there, as it says explicitly: "After many days you shall be called upon, in the latter years you shall come to the land returned from the sword, gathered out of many peoples... and brought out of the nations." Rashi comments (v. 8):**

**I will raise you up in the end of days to come to Eretz Israel, which will**

be returned from the sword. Its inhabitants will have returned from the exile to which they had been exiled by means of the enemy's sword. "Which have been a perpetual waste": For many years, but prior to your attack they will return... And He who takes it away from the nations will not leave it in your hands.

Following is Metzudat David:

In the end of years, you will come to the land whose inhabitants returned to settle it from the place to which they had been exiled by the enemy's sword... They will have been gathered together there from the many nations where they were scattered in the exile.

And Mahari Kra comments:

Since the prophet described Israel as already having been "brought forth out of the peoples," when he mentions the fall of Gog, it follows that redemption will precede the war of Gog; that is, Israel will already have been brought forth out of many peoples when Gog arrives.

Radak comments, "This will be in the time of salvation after all or most of Israel have left the exile."

The reign of Gog constitutes the end of this world as we know it and symbolizes the pinnacle of blasphemous pride. Yet G-d's revenge, in which His name is finally sanctified throughout the world, forever, will serve to blot out the Chilul Hashem of all the nations in all generations. This is the intent of the words quoted above, "After many days, you shall be called upon" (Ezek. 38:8). As Rashi commented, "After many days of your sinning against Me, you shall now be summoned before Me to recall your sins and be served your recompense." The intention is not to recall only the sin of Gog and his contemporaries, but of all the nations in all generations who sinned in haughtiness and Chilul Hashem.

**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**