# **BEWARE OF THE RABBANIM OF THE EREV RAV :**

### WERE IT NOT FOR THE EREV RAV THE JEWS WOULD

## HAVE LIVED FOREVER

### THE EREV RAV CAUSED GREAT SUFFERING TO THE JEWS AND WERE IT NOT FOR THEM THE GOLDEN CALF WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN MADE

R. Isaac was reminded of the verse: "A Psalm of David. Do not fear because of the evildoers (MEREIM), nor be envious against those who act deceivingly." (Ps. 37, 1). 'The evildoers,' he said, 'as opposed to sinners" or "wicked men", are those who defile themselves and all who come into contact with them.' Said R. Judah: 'One must indeed beware of making friends (REIM) with the evildoers (MEREIM), lest one should suffer for their deeds and be included in their judgment. Mark this. Were it not for that EREV RAV "mixed multitude", which joined and mingled with the Israelites, the sin of the "golden calf " would never have been perpetrated, and the children of Israel would not have had to suffer for it as they did...

### IF NOT FOR THAT SIN ISRAEL WOULD HAVE BEEN FREE OF DEATH AND FREE FROM THE DOMINION OF EARTHLY POWERS

If not for that sin Israel would have been, then and forever, that which the Holy One had ordained them to be; namely, pure as the angels and free from all evil: free from death and free from the dominion of earthly powers. But that sin brought upon them death and subjection, and through it the tablets were broken and many thousands were slain. All this came from their association with the EREV RAV and it was on their account that they are called here not "children of Israel", nor "Israel", nor "my people", but simply "the people". As for the expression in the same verse, "And the children of Israel went up harnessed [CHAMUSHIM] out of the land of Egypt", this refers to the period before the EREV RAV joined them.' R. Jose objected that at the Red Sea Moses said to the Israelites, "the Egyptians whom ye have seen to-day ye shall see them again no more" (Ex. 14, 13), and yet according to R. Isaac's interpretation they saw the "mixed multitude" every day. To this R. Judah answered that the "mixed multitude" were not Egyptians, but members of other peoples living in Egypt. Moreover, they had all been circumcised, and therefore would not in any case be called Egyptians. They were accepted as proselytes on the authority of Moshe; for which reason it says in a later passage, "Go, get down, for your people which you have brought out of Egypt have corrupted themselves" (Ex. 32, 7) AND THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL WENT UP ARMED (Chamushim). This signifies that the EREV RAV numbered one in every five (Chamishah). According to R. Jose, for every five pure Israelites there was one who belonged to the EREV RAV. R. Judah said one in fifty (Chamishim). The Zohar ha Kaddosh, Beshallach 45b-46a

AND WHEN WE SEE THOSE RABBONIM THAT BELONG TO THE EREV RAV ACHIEVING GREAT SUCCESS, WE TRY TO COPY THEIR WRONG AND EVIL PATHS AND THIS DOES GREAT DAMAGE TO THE TORAH AND IS DESPICABLE IN THE EYES OF HASHEM