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# Dear Editor,

## Dear Editor,

Within the letters of the word *shlach* lies the story of the spies. They first chose out of free will to see a land despite the fact that there were already guarantees. Reversing the word *shlach*, we arrive at the word *chalash*, weak. In this case, their free will decision was an exhibition of weakness as G-d already promised a land that would stand as their home. Certainly, man should exercise his free will, the greatest gift bestowed upon us, but not when the Al-mighty already gave promises. Then, the final straw was the report which was tinted with their own interpretations. They were on a fact-finding mission, not a mission to offer their opinions and personal judgements about what was possible. Rearranging the word *shlach*, we arrive at the word *lachash*, to remain quiet. Their failure was in them not silencing their imaginative thoughts regarding what they saw.

Despite the destruction caused by the spies, perhaps leading to the forfeiting of the land, our merciful G-d delivered the mitzvah of giving challah when we enter the land. All was not lost after all.

Furthermore, my uncle, Rabbi Genack, points out that G-d gives the mitzvah of tzizit at the end of the parsha as a tikkun for the *meraglim*. In both occurrences the words, *re'item* (to see) and *taturu* (to spy) are used. In the mitzvah of tzizit we are told not to spy after our eyes, but rather to "see" G-d's grandeur through the tzizit by looking at the techeles which reminds us of the heavens above (see the beginning of Yerushalmi, Brachos).

Let us celebrate the "second

chance" doctrine offered by G-d to give us a land despite our imaginative belittling of it and giving us a tikkun for a sin that had major historical consequences.

**Steven Genack**

## Dear Editor,

Congratulations to all of you Far Rockaway residents on your new district attorney! She is a proud 31-year-old Democrat Socialist who was bolstered by her 29-year-old Socialist pal Alexandria Ocasio Cortez. She has a background as a public defender and ran on a platform of

not prosecuting fare beaters and numerous other crimes. She also wants to make it easier for criminals to post bail so that they can get back on the streets as fast as possible. She wants to close Rikers Island. Her goal of making things fairer for criminals will certainly help make Far Rockaway a more equitable and enjoyable place to live. No longer will criminals be under the thumb of the ruthless hammer of justice. If you break into someone's car or steal Amazon packages off of your neighbors' porches, you won't face harsh and out-of-proportion consequences. If you harass and threaten people on the street, you will be treated with compassion and told that it's not your fault. If your neighbors call the police on you, they will probably tell your neighbor not to waste his/her time as the DA's office won't prosecute them anyway. More criminals roaming the streets will only add character to the neighborhood.

*Continued on page 10*

# Readers Poll

June 26 is National Canoe Day.  
Did you ever go canoeing?

71%

YES

29%

NO