



The Joy of Torah - For Life

Parshas Bo

Shmuz by Rabbi Shimon Max

Written over by Shmuli Stern

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The Pasuk at the beginning of of Parsha (10:3) says that Moshe and Aharaon came to Pharoah and asked him in the name of Hashem that until when will you refuse “I’anos mipanai”, and therefore he should send out the b’nei Yisrael. Rashi explains the word “I’anos” comes from the root word of “ani” - meaning until when will you refuse to humble yourself before me (Hashem). The Seforno also explains that Hashem was saying that you’ve already seen the power of Hashem and how reliant you are on Hashem, so it’s about time you stop refusing! We see from here how hard it is for a person to humble himself! If Pharoah would just humble himself, he would be spared the makos, and Pharoah was already struck by terrible makos and knew about Hashem’s abilities as the Seforno said. Yet Pharoah couldn’t say the crucial words “I made a mistake. I’m wrong.” It seems like it was the reluctance of that admission that was stopping Pharoah from stopping his own and his countries’ unbearable suffering. We see from here how difficult it can be to humble ourselves to admit our mistakes and apologies!