Parshas Vayeira

Shmuz by Rabbi Shimon Max Written over by Shmuli Stern 17 Cheshvan 5782 October 19th 2021

The Ramban writes that the reason Sedom was punished so severely that the land was destroyed to the point of never ever healing forever was because they received so much good from the beautiful plentiful land, they became arrogant. (See also the Gemara in Sanhedrin 109A)

One can wonder that it seems difficult to justify that that should be the reason. The people of Sedom did so many terrible, disgusting things, and the reason given by the Ramban is arrogance!? How can there even be a claim on Sedom for not recognizing Hashem's goodness, they were so wicked and this was expected of them!?

We must say that there's a claim even on Sedom for "exploiting" the abundant good that Hashem gave them and using it to have arrogance. Even people as bad as these people could have and should have recognized the tremendous blessings they were receiving and it should have humbled them, and instead they took it and became arrogant with the kindness of Hashem!

We see that even the people of Sedom had the ability to be sensitive to the good that Hashem did for them and therefore there in fact was a claim on them! Surely ourselves should look at all of the kindness that Hashem does for us and it should humble us!