

**Eliezer Hadad | Theft and Robbery in Maimonides:  
Between Halakhah and Philosophy**

According to Torah law, a thief must pay double (Exodus 21:3) while a robber must only repay the loot (Leviticus 5:23). In this article, I would like to present Maimonides' explanation in the *Guide of the Perplexed* for the difference between the law of a thief and the law of a robber and compare it to his ruling in the *Mishneh Torah*. In my opinion, even in the *Mishneh Torah*, there is an explanation for this difference, but it is not the same as the explanation in the *Guide of the Perplexed*. In the *Guide of the Perplexed* Maimonides placed the principle of deterrence as the basis for distinguishing between the laws, while in the *Mishneh Torah* he placed the principle of justice as the basis of difference.