

מְצוֹת
לֹא תַעֲשֶׂה
#247

📖 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Kedoshim: (ויקרא י"ג)

לֹא תַעֲשֶׂק אֶת רֵעֶךָ
וְלֹא תִגְזֹל

📖 We also learn this mitzvah from Parshas Ki Seitzei:

לֹא תַעֲשֶׂק שְׂכִיר

Today's *mitzvah* is that we can't keep money that we owe someone else. This is called *Oshek*. Whether we owe them money that we borrowed, or we owe them because they did work for us and we need to pay them, if we keep that money it is like stealing!

So now we have three kinds of stealing: We have *Geneivah* (stealing something in a hidden way), *Gezeilah* (robbing something by force), and *Oshek* (holding someone else's money that we owe them and not giving it to them — either telling them that we won't pay, or by giving excuses).

The punishment for Oshek is the same as the punishment for Gezeilah, which we see from a posuk from Parshas Vayikra that puts them both together: וְכַחֵשׁ בְּעַמִּיתוֹ בְּפִקְדוֹן אֹו בְּתַשׁוּמַת יָד אֹו בְּגִזְלָה אֹו עֲשָׂק אֶת עַמִּיתוֹ

Rambam: Hilchos Gezeilah VaAveidah

PEREK DALED

Now we learn the *knas* (fine) that the *Chachomim* made against a robber. The person that was robbed is allowed to make a promise in *Beis Din*, and the robber will have to pay whatever amount he says the robber took.

PEREK HEY

The Rambam explains that we are not allowed to use things that were stolen by a robber.

PEREK VOV

This *perek* has *halachos* about when things are counted as robbery even if they don't look like robbery — like taking someone's furniture that fell into the river and was washed away, or like gambling.