

# Exodus 22:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

If a man shall deliver unto his neighbour money or stuff to keep, and it be stolen out of the man's house; if the thief be found, let him pay double.

## Analysis

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**If a man shall deliver unto his neighbour money or stuff to keep, and it be stolen out of the man's house; if the thief be found, let him pay double.**

Theft laws emphasize restitution over retribution—restoring victims exceeds merely punishing thieves. The graduated penalties (200-500% depending on circumstances) deter theft while providing for victim's losses. This restorative justice model contrasts with purely punitive systems. The principle: sin has consequences requiring repayment. Gospel application: Christ paid infinitely more than our debt, providing ultimate restitution for sin's theft of God's glory.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern theft penalties varied widely—some death, some forced labor, some restitution. Israel's approach balanced deterrence with restoration, protecting both victim and perpetrator.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How does this law reveal God's character—His justice, mercy, or holiness?
2. What New Testament principles build upon or fulfill this Old Testament regulation?

## Interlinear Text

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כִּי	יִתְּחַנֵּן	בְּאִישׁ	אֶל	בְּעֵד	הַוְעֵד	כְּסֵף	אוֹ	כָּלִים
H3588	<b>shall deliver</b>	<b>If a man</b>	H413	<b>unto his neighbour</b>	H7453	<b>money</b>	H176	<b>or stuff</b>
	H5414	H376				H3701		H3627
לְשָׁמֶן	רַ	לְשָׁמֶן	רַ	מִבְּיַת	וְגַם	אִמְצָא	בְּ	הַגָּנֶב
<b>to keep</b>	<b>and it be stolen</b>	<b>house</b>	<b>If a man</b>	H518	<b>be found</b>	<b>if the thief</b>		H1590
H8104	H1589	H1004	H376		H4672			
וְשָׁלֵם:	שְׁלֵמִים:							
<b>let him pay</b>	<b>double</b>							
H7999	H8147							

## Additional Cross-References

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**Exodus 22:4** (Parallel theme): If the theft be certainly found in his hand alive, whether it be ox, or ass, or sheep; he shall restore double.