

## גנב の意味と第八戒の意図

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**ABSTRACT** Haruki HIRATSUKA, “The Meaning of גנב and Its Significance in Understanding the Eighth Commandment.” The eighth commandment prohibits an action expressed by the Hebrew verb גנב, which is commonly rendered ‘steal.’ But why was the lexeme גנב chosen for this command, instead of its synonyms גזל and עשק? In the present study, I approach this question through a comparison of גנב with גזל and עשק. First, I demonstrate that גנב has a sense of ‘secrecy’ in distinction to גזל and עשק, both of which exhibit an element of force. I then survey the treatment of גנב, גזל and עשק in the Pentateuchal law, and show that a secret act like גנב requires a heavier penalty than explicit offenses involving גזל and עשק. I conclude that גנב was chosen in the eighth commandment because of its secrecy since in the Pentateuchal law there is a tendency that hidden offenses are deemed more serious than open crimes before God.