

"Can a man then rob G-d? For you have robbed Me ... you give me not tithes. (3:8)

The *Navi's* words are as stirring as they are striking. Our various religious observances belong to us. If we decide not to practice, we are spiting ourselves. We are undermining our own *Olam Ha'bah* that we decide to ignore. If we adhere to the *Torah*, we will receive a reward commensurate with our observance. If we chose to alienate ourselves from the *Torah*, we will in turn one day answer for our indiscretion and insolence. If we hoard our money and refuse to share our G-d given wealth with others, then we steal from Hashem. Whatever we have is only a result of Hashem's beneficence. We have it for a specific purpose -to help others. If we ignore this Divine command, we are no more than thieves.