

at all deserve to die. The prediction of His righteousness was abundantly fulfilled in the perfect life of Jesus Christ. No other character in life, or even in fiction, has ever been completely without a flaw. No other has ever been able to ask with truth, "Which of you convinceth me of sin?" (John 8:46).

## 5. THE FULFILLMENT OF GOD'S PURPOSE

(10) Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him, putting him to grief. When he makes himself a guilt offering, he will see his seed, he will prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD will prosper in his hand. (11) He will see the result of the travail of his soul and will be satisfied; by the knowledge of himself will my righteous servant justify many, for he will bear their iniquities. (12) Therefore I will divide him a portion with the great, and he will divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors, and bore the sin of many; and he will make intercession for the transgressors.

This paragraph begins with the statement that God chose that the Servant should suffer in this way. The New Testament expresses this truth by calling Him "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world" (Rev 13:8). His death was the divine provision to atone for sin.

The second phrase in verse 10 means literally, "he made him sick."<sup>48</sup> It must be remembered that the Hebrew makes no distinction between a condition caused by bacteria and one produced by violence or accident. In the light of the context, the translation "putting him to grief," while rather general, is probably satisfactory.

The rest of the paragraph consists of a survey of the far reaching results of the Servant's sacrifice. It begins with a reference to the fact that His sacrifice will be the equivalent of a guilt offering.<sup>49</sup> The suggestion has been made that various other sacrifices prescribed in the book of Leviticus might seem better to fit the meaning of the atonement than this particular one (called a sin offering in the KJV). The answer may well be that this offering stands here as representing the entire sacrificial