

system, which finds its fulfillment in the voluntary death of the Servant of the LORD.

The Hebrew particle <sup>^50</sup> with which this part of the verse begins is usually translated "if," but need not, as the English word so often does, convey an idea of doubt. As the present context clearly teaches that the event will definitely occur, it is best to translate it as "when," as is also done in Genesis 38:9; Numbers 36:4; Judges 6:3; Psalm 78:34; Isaiah 4:4; 24:13; 28:25; and Amos 7:2.

The translation in the King James Version, "when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin," is an equally possible translation of this phrase, as far as the Hebrew verb form is concerned, though the phrase "offering for sin" is perhaps a bit more general than the Hebrew word that the King James Version usually translates "a sin offering." Since the second-person pronoun is not used anywhere in the immediate context, there is much to be said in favor of the translation included in our text, though it is impossible to be dogmatic between the two. In either case it means that the death of the Servant represents the fulfillment of the entire sacrificial system, being the reality which it typifies in advance.

The rest of the verse describes some of the results that will follow His sacrifice of Himself. The first of these is represented by the words "he will see his seed." This statement gives a joyful answer to the rhetorical question in verse 8: "Who shall declare his generation?" The Hebrew word for "seed" <sup>^51</sup> is often used to indicate descendants, as in the promises to Abraham. As a result of giving Himself as a guilt offering, this One who was cut off in His prime and seemed to have no prospect of leaving any permanent accomplishment will see generation after generation of those who have been brought to salvation through His sacrifice and who desire to follow Him as their Lord.

The next phrase, "he will prolong his days," shows that the Servant's activities will not end at His death. It carries a strong suggestion of physical resurrection, and this was fulfilled by Christ. The New Testament records that Jesus was raised from