

Greek translation that was made about two centuries before the time of Christ. In spite of this it has been suggested that the original text said "evildoers," and that the word "rich" is a copyist's error. The New English Bible ^{therefore, without warrant, has} substituted the words "among the refuse of mankind."

Occasionally one hears it said that the Dead Sea scroll of Isaiah originally contained the word "evildoers" at this place. Such a statement, however, rests upon ignorance of the actual situation. Professor Millar Burrows of Yale University has pointed out that in that manuscript there is evidence of an erasure at the end of the word for "a rich man." Professor Burrows explains this erasure on a very simple basis. After copying the word for "wicked men" a scribe might easily write the plural of "rich men," without realizing that he had done so. Then, as he compared his work with the manuscript from which he had copied, he would see that he had inserted a plural ending by mistake and would erase this ending. As it stands, the Dead Sea scroll agrees exactly with other Hebrew manuscripts of Isaiah.

The rest of the verse explains why such a strange thing would happen, that a man whose grave was assigned with wicked men should instead be placed in a rich man's tomb. It was because of the Saviour's perfect life, free from all violence and deceit. This is clearly brought out in the King James Version, which introduces the rest of the verse by the word "because."

A number of modern versions have made an unfortunate mistake at this point. Eight of them agree in changing the KJV word "because" to "although." This change was suggested by the German critical scholar