

Isaiah 32:2

I would like to see the first word of this verse replaced by "a man"-- the literal rendering of the Hebrew. It would be very unusual to express the simple pronoun "he" by . I have no doubt that it points to Christ, the Man who will be a shelter from the wind, and a refuge from the storm. No other could deserve the strong statements in this verse. I believe the incarnation is suggested by the use of the word "man" and that there is no ground for omitting "man" from the translation.

At this point I think that the NASB made a very bad choice when it wrote "each will be," thus applying it to the rulers. It is true that is sometimes used in a distributive sense, but in such cases there is usually a plural verb or a collective. I like the present NIV much better than the NASB at this point, but feel that the literal rendering as "a man" would be far better.

I would also suggest replacing "or" by "and."

Isaiah 49:12

Here the word "Sinim" is transliterated, as is proper, but I do not at all like the footnote "Or Syene: that is, 'Aswan.'" Syene is mentioned in Ezekiel 29:10 and 30:6, but is spelled differently. Even if the Dead Sea Scrolls confused the two, that is no reason for us to do so. There is no reason for Syene to have a plural ending. I believe "Sinim" indicates China. There is a rather full discussion of this point in The Gospel of Isaiah on pages 110-12 and 181(n.29). I would greatly prefer the omission of the reference to Syene, which in my opinion is very definitely not what is meant. Insertion of a note such as "i.e., China" would suit me even better.