

his way home from school and ask him, "Where do you go to school?" he would answer, "I go to the Webster school," even though he was at that moment walking in the opposite direction. He would be using a tense that is often erroneously called the present tense, but that in modern English is actually a frequentative. He would mean that it was his habit to attend the Webster school, not that at that moment he was in the act of doing so. The modern English present ordinarily uses an auxiliary.

Greek verbs have a much larger number of possible forms than English, and are therefore able to convey more precise ideas. Hebrew, on the other hand, has a much smaller number of possible tenses than English, so that a considerable portion of their meaning must be determined from context. Aside from imperatives, infinitives and participles, Hebrew has only two tenses, designated as perfect and imperfect. Either of these may be used in past, present or future time. The perfect points to an established situation, while the imperfect shows an action as it occurs. In the majority of cases the perfect is fairly well rendered by the English past and the imperfect by the English future. Sometimes the context shows that the actual time relation cannot be represented in this way, and this occasionally makes translators careless in rendering these tenses. Yet where a different tense is used one should always seek a reason for the change.

The last part of Isaiah 53:12 is rendered in the King James Version: "because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors: and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors." Many modern translations follow the