

Isaiah 26:18

Here the Hebrew verbs in the first half of the verse are perfect, but in the second half they are imperfect; yet the translation renders them all as past! Still more important--the fourth line of the verse is actually a paraphrase.

In the Hebrew the last two lines of the verse read: "We do not make salvation in the earth; the inhabitants of the world do not fall "

It is true that Koehler-Baumgartner lists "be born" as a possible meaning for            but this is the only reference he gives, and his alleged evidence from related words is extremely shaky. I have no doubt that his citation is really just a reference to someone's conjecture, and rests on no solid basis. Translating the last line as "we have not given birth to people of the earth" results in a paraphrase rather than a translation. I see no reason for departing so far from the literal meaning of the original.

Isaiah 30:6

The second word in the verse is literally "the burden." The fact that the same word has been properly translated "oracle" in the heading of a number of earlier sections makes it natural to expect it to mean "oracle" here. However, it is really a play on words. The passage does not describe God's will for the future of "the animals of the Negev" but denounces Judah for vainly looking to Egypt for help and sending heavy tribute on donkeys and camels in the vain effort to get Egyptian protection. I prefer the literal wording of the heading as "The Burden of the Animals of the Negev."