Translation: Therefore will the Lord himself give you a sign:
               behold, this young woman shall conceive and bear a
               son, and she shall call his name Immanuel, God with us.

Observation: Now everyone's ideas show up in translation, of course,
               but Leeser has allowed his emotion to carry him into
               areas of questionable scholarship. Note the following:

               "this" young woman

               "shall conceive"...note the form of this word

               "she shall call" note the person of the verb.

               Often in a text like this we see nothing but the "young
               woman" translation but in such a rendering as Leeser's
               it is one of the less questionable things.

               So as you read, it is important to keep your eyes open
               and to consult the text often.

5. Now for a change of pace, note the following text and think through the
    interpretative suggestion that is offered. The passage is Genesis 17:18:

    Text:

    ¹⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְרָהָם אֶל־הָאֱלֹהִים ׳לוּ׳ יִשְׁמָעֵאל׳ יִחְיֶה לְפָנֶיךָ׃

    Translation: And Abraham said unto God, "Oh that Ishmael might
                   live before thee."

    Observation: Reading in a commentary I observed the note: "The very
                   words Abraham uses, in the Hebrew text, suggest that he
                   knows his request is not feasible."

                   This is a small point but notice how the particle beginning
                   the second clause indeed suggests it. If the verb were
                   perfect it would be absolute but being imperfect it does
                   not make such a total case. But it is an interesting note
                   and the exegete will be reminded of the times people come
                   before God with "impossible" prayers.

6. Here is a block of the ten commandments, Exodus 20:13-17.

    Text: ס ׃לֹא֖ תִּֿנְאָֽף ׃ ¹⁴ ס ¹³לֹא֖ תִּֿרְצָֽח׃ ס
                    לֹא ¹⁷ ס ¹⁶לֹא־תַעֲנֶ֥ה בְרֵעֲךָ֖ עֵ֥ד שָֽׁקֶר׃ ס ¹⁵לֹא֖ תִּֿגְנֹֽב׃
                    תַחְמֹד֮ בֵּ֣ית רֵעֶ֒ךָ֒ לֹֽא־תַחְמֹ֞ד אֵ֣שֶׁת רֵעֶ֗ךָ וְעַבְדּ֤וֹ וַאֲמָתוֹ֙ וְשׁוֹר֣וֹ
                    וַחֲמֹרוֹ֙ וְכֹ֖ל אֲשֶׁ֥ר לְרֵעֶֽךָ׃ ס

    Translation: I am not printing it...I am almost out of space on this
                   page. You should be able to read it and the translation
                   is only important in our question on the next page.