

הָיָה plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big

hebrew

The word הָיָה means “to exist” or “to be” or “to become” or “to come into being” and occurs 3561 times in the Old Testament.

This is the foundational verb of existence, identity, becoming and occurrence.

* It is used in the creation narrative of Genesis 1, represented by the English words Genesis 1:3 Exodus 3:12 Ruth 1:1 Isaiah 2:2 הָיָה בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לַיהוָה plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big

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Meaning

* Yahweh - God's personal name

It is not a generic term for “god”, but rather the word יְהוָה (YHWH) is the name by which God uniquely identifies himself in the Old Testament.

First appearing in Genesis 2:4, it occurs over 6,000 times in the Old Testament. Exodus 3:14 Deuteronomy 6:4 Psalm 23:1 Romans 10:13 Joel 2:32 Exodus 20:7 Psalm 18:1 Exodus 15:3 Psalm 8:1 Genesis 2:41 Samuel 1:3 Judges 6:24 Genesis 22:14 Jeremiah 23:6 אֱלֹהֵיהֶם plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big

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Meanings:

* God * god * goddess * divine ones * angels

Noun, masculine אֵת plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big

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The Hebrew אֵת word does not have a corresponding word in English. In Hebrew, it is a marker of the accusative, i.e. the word following it is the object of the sentence.

For example, in Genesis 1:1 the word is preceded by אֶרֶץ (מֵאֲרֶץ) אֱלֹהִים plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big

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Meaning:

* Earth (e.g. Genesis 1:1) or world * Land * Countries or country

When coupled with heavens (שָׁמַיִם), the phrase indicates the entire created order. Genesis 12:1 מְצֻרִים אֱלֹהִים יְד פָּרְעָה מִלֶּךְ מִצְרַיִם וַיִּירָאוּ אֶל־אֱלֹהִים

Meanings:

Noun, masculine אֶתְרִים

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