

Genesis 1

Text

[Hebrew](#)

ראשית plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big ראשית

hebrew

Meanings:

* Beginning * Finest (or choice) * First (first fruits) * Principal thing

Embraces the idea of beginnings, first part, chief value and first-fruits. The context determines the specific meaning.

Derived from ראש

Feminine, noun ברא plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big ברא

hebrew

Meaning:

* To create * To cut down, select, feed

Bara is a verb that is never takes a human subject; God is always the one who creates in the Old Testament. In contrast, עָשָׂה (to make or do) and יָצַר (to form and to build) do often have humans as the subject. אֱלֹהִים plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big אֱלֹהִים

hebrew

Meanings:

* God * god * goddess * divine ones * angels

Noun, masculine אֵת plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big אֵת

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hebrew

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. It only ever occurs in conjunction with nouns associated with the definite article הַ. Genesis 1:1 עֵינַיִם plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big עֵינַיִם

hebrew

Meanings:

* Heaven or heavens * Sky * Compass

Masculine noun. The word is dual in form (ending in -ַיִם) which normally indicates two things (like eyes and hands), however, however it functions as a plural. Deuteronomy 10:14 states that Genesis 1:20 Psalm 115:3 וָאֵת plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big וָאֵת

hebrew

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hebrew

Meaning:

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

The word אֶרֶץ can designate the whole of planet earth, or the inhabitable world or the national territory or ground.

When coupled with heavens (שָׁמַיִם), the phrase indicates the entire created order. Genesis 12:1

אָרץ plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big

hebrew

Meaning:

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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 plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big

hebrew

Meaning:

* Formless * Waste * Futile * Meaningless * Nothing * Chaos

Masculine. Noun.

Describes something that is unformed or purposeless. It often pairs with בָּהוּ - void - forming the phrase וַתְּהִי בָהוּ, a poetic expression for utter chaos or emptiness. Genesis 1:2 Deuteronomy 32:10 Isaiah 45:18 Jeremiah 4:23 הָיָה plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big

hebrew

2 Meaning:

* Face * Presence * Front or surface

Noun. Masculine. Although it looks plural in form (ending in -ים), it is almost always used as a singular in meaning - a type of plural of intensity or plural of form common in Hebrew for body parts that come in pairs or have multiple aspects. הָיָה plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big

hebrew

Meaning:

* Wind * Breath * Spirit

Noun. Occurs about 380 times in the Old Testament.

Though usually feminine, רוּחַ sometimes takes masculine verbs and adjectives, especially when referring to the Spirit of God (רוּחַ יְהוָה). Exodus 10:13 Genesis 6:17 Genesis 41:8 Proverbs 16:32 Ecclesiastes 12:7 Genesis 1:2 Judges 3:10 Ezekiel 36:27 Genesis 2:7 John 3:8 Genesis 1:2 Genesis 8:1 רוּחַ plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big

hebrew

Meanings:

* God * god * goddess * divine ones * angels

Noun, masculine הָיָה plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big

hebrew

Meaning:

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Noun. Masculine. Although it looks plural in form (ending in -ים), it is almost always used as a singular in meaning - a type of plural of intensity or plural of form common in Hebrew for body parts that come in pairs or have multiple aspects. הָיָה

אלהיםאֱלֹהִיםplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigאלהים
hebrew
Meanings:
* God * god * goddess * divine ones * angels
Noun, masculine יהיהיplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigיהיהי
hebrew
3The word יהיה 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.
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ESV

1	In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
2	The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.
3	And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.

NIV

1	In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
2	Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.
3	And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.

NLT

1	In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
2	The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.
3	Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.

LXX

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ἐν	ἐνplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigἐν
	greek
	Preposition meaning “in”. ἀρχῇplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigἀρχή

greek

Meaning:

* Beginning * First * Elementary * Rulers, rule, domain

Noun, feminine (first declension)

Occurs 56 times in the New Testament, consistently conveying the idea of primacy - whether temporal (i.e. the start, e.g. John 1:1) or causal (i.e. the source) or governmental (i.e. the ruler, e.g. Ephesians 6:12 [ἐποίησεν](#) plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigποιέω

Meaning:

* To do * To make

This verb - to do or make - is used in connection with a large range of activities including creation, covenant formation, obedience, miracles, sin and worship.

Verb forms

Present tense Person Greek Form [ὁ](#) plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigὁ, ἡ, τό

greek

Meaning:

* The

The definite article.

Forms

Singular Case Masculine Feminine Neuter Nominative ὁ ἡ τό Genitive τοῦ τῆς τοῦ Dative τῷ τῇ [θεῷ](#) plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigθεὸς

greek

Masculine noun meaning:

* A god or goddess * God [τὸν](#) plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigὁ, ἡ, τό

greek

Meaning:

* The

The definite article.

Forms

Singular Case Masculine Feminine Neuter Nominative ὁ ἡ τό Genitive τοῦ τῆς τοῦ Dative τῷ τῇ
 οὐρανὸνplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigοὐρανός

Meaning:

* The sky * Air * Heaven or heavens

278 occurrences in the New Testament.

Οὐρανός is used in Scripture to describe the sky and universe (that is, the visible expanse above the earth) as well as the transcendent realm where God is present. For example, in Matthew 6:26Matthew 24:29Matthew 6:9 καὶplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigκαί

greek

Meaning

* And * Also * Both * Even * Too * So

Is a conjunction that connects single words or terms or sentences. IT is most frequently translated as “and” τὴνplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigὁ, ἡ, τό

greek

Meaning:

* The

The definite article.

Forms

Singular Case Masculine Feminine Neuter Nominative ὁ ἡ τό Genitive τοῦ τῆς τοῦ Dative τῷ τῇ
 γῆνplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigγῆ

Meaning:

* Soil or ground (e.g. Matthew 13:5) * Land (e.g. Luke 4:5) * Country * Earth (e.g. Matthew 5:5)

Feminine noun. Connected to the English words “ground”, “geometry” and “geology”.

It occurs throughout the LXX and the New Testament (approximately 250 times in the New Testament) and its meaning varies subtly on context, for example, in the LXX:Genesis 1:1Genesis 2:7Genesis 12:1

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ἡplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigὁ, ἡ, τό greek Meaning: * The The definite article. Forms Singular Case Masculine Feminine Neuter Nominative ὁ ἡ τό Genitive τοῦ τῆς τοῦ Dative τῷ τῇ δέplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigδέ greek δέ is a conjunction that can mean “but” or “and” or “also” or “moreover”. It is a word that is used very frequently in the New Testament, and is often unexpressed and not translated in English. γῇplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigγῇ Meaning: * Soil or ground (e.g. Matthew 13:5) * Land (e.g. Luke 4:5) * Country * Earth (e.g. Matthew 5:5) Feminine noun. Connected to the English words “ground”, “geometry” and “geology”. It occurs throughout the LXX and the New Testament (approximately 250 times in the New Testament) and its meaning varies subtly on context, for example, in the LXX:Genesis 1:1Genesis 2:7Genesis 12:1 ἡplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigεἰμί greek εἰμί is the first person singular verb for “to be” (εἶναι [the infinitive form] = “to be”). It an irregular verb, and, like English, changes significantly between person and tense. For example εἰμί is the word for am and ἦν is the word for was, e.g. ὁράτος καὶplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigκαί greek Meaning * And * Also * Both * Even * Too * So Is a conjunction that connects single words or terms or sentences. IT is most frequently translated as “and” ἀκατασκεύαστος καὶplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigκαί 2greek Meaning * And * Also * Both * Even * Too * So Is a conjunction that connects single words or terms or sentences. IT is most frequently translated as “and” σκότος ἐπάνω τῇςplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigὁ, ἡ, τό greek Meaning: * The The definite article. Forms Singular Case Masculine Feminine Neuter Nominative ὁ ἡ τό Genitive τοῦ τῆς τοῦ Dative τῷ τῇ ἄβύσσου καὶplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigκαί greek Meaning * And * Also * Both * Even * Too * So Is a conjunction that connects single words or terms or sentences. IT is most frequently translated as “and” πνεῦμα θεοῦplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigθεὸς greek Masculine noun meaning: * A god or goddess * God ἐπεφέρετο ἐπάνω τοῦplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigὁ, ἡ, τό greek Meaning: * The The definite article. Forms Singular Case Masculine Feminine Neuter Nominative ὁ ἡ τό Genitive τοῦ τῆς τοῦ Dative τῷ τῇ ὕδατος
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καὶplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigκαί

greek

Meaning

* And * Also * Both * Even * Too * So

Is a conjunction that connects single words or terms or sentences. IT is most frequently translated as "and" εἶπεν ὁplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigὁ, ἡ, τό

greek

Meaning:

* The

3 The definite article.

Forms

Singular Case Masculine Feminine Neuter Nominative ὁ ἡ τό Genitive τοῦ τῆς τοῦ Dative τῷ τῇ θεόςplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigθεός

greek

Masculine noun meaning:

* A god or goddess * God γενηθήτω φῶς καὶplugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_bigκαί

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Meaning

* And * Also * Both * Even * Too * So

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Commentary

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