וַיְהִֽי plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big הָיָה

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 1:3Exodus 3:12Ruth 1:1Isaiah 2:2 כְּבֹ֣וא אַבְרָ֗ם מִצְרַ֛יְמָה וַיִּרְאוּ֥ הַמִּצְרִ֖יִם אֶת plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big אֵת

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.

For example, in Genesis 1:1 the word is preceded by בָּרָ֣א אֱלֹהִ֑ים (הָאִשָּׁ֣ה כִּֽי־יָפָ֥ה הִ֖וא מְאֹֽד

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