

γῆ

Meaning:

- Soil (e.g. [Matthew 13:5](#)`plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big`Matthew 13:5

Greek ἄλλα δὲ ἔπεσεν ἐπὶ τὰ πετρώδη ὅπου οὐκ εἶχεν γῆν πολλήν, καὶ εὐθέως ἐξανέτειλεν διὰ τὸ μὴ ἔχειν βάθος γῆς· ESV Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, NIV Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow.)

- Land (e.g. [Luke 4:5](#)`plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big`Luke 4:25

Greek ἐπ' ἀληθείας δὲ λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι πολλὰι χῆραι ἦσαν ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις Ἡλείου ἐν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ, ὅτε ἐκλείσθη ὁ οὐρανὸς ἐπὶ ἔτη τρία καὶ μῆνας ἕξ, ὡς ἐγένετο λιμὸς μέγας ἐπὶ πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν, ESV But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, NIV...)

- Country
- Earth (e.g. [Matthew 5:5](#)`plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big`Matthew 5:5

Greek μακάριοι οἱ πενθοῦντες, ὅτι αὐτοὶ παρακληθήσονται. ESV “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. NIV Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. NLT God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth. KJV Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.)

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:

- In [Genesis 1:1](#)`plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big`Genesis 1:1

Hebrew וַיֵּצֵר אֱלֹהִים אֶת הָאָדָם מִן הָאֲדָמָה וַיִּפַּח בְּאַפָּיו נְשָׁמַת חַיִּים וַיְהִי הָאָדָם לְנֶפֶשׁ חַיָּה וַאֲתָ הָאָרֶץ ESV In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. NIV In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. NLT In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. LXX ἐν ἀρχῇ ἐποίησεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν, God made the heaven and the earth (γῆν). Here the word refers to the whole of the world, all land. γῆν is translated from the Hebrew אֶרֶץ

- In [Genesis 2:7](#)`plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big`Genesis 2:7

Hebrew וַיִּצְרֵהוּ אֱלֹהִים אֶת הָאָדָם עָפָר מִן הָאֲדָמָה וַיִּפַּח בְּאַפָּיו נְשָׁמַת חַיִּים וַיְהִי הָאָדָם לְנֶפֶשׁ חַיָּה וַאֲתָ הָאָרֶץ ESV then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. NIV the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. καὶ ἔπλασεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς..., God formed the man from the dust (γῆς) of the ground. Here the word refers to the soil and is translated from the Hebrew אֲדָמָה

- And in [Genesis 12:1](#)`plugin-autotooltip__default plugin-autotooltip_big`Genesis 12:1

Hebrew וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל אַבְרָם לֵךְ לְךָ מֵאֶרֶץ וּמִמְּוֹלַדְתְּךָ וּמִבֵּית אָבִיךָ אֶל הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אֹרְאָךְ ESV Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the

land that I will show you. NIV The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you.

καὶ κύριος τῷ ἔξελθε ἐκ τῆς γῆς σου καὶ ἐκ τῆς συγγενείας σου καὶ ἐκ τοῦ οἴκου τοῦ πατρὸς σου εἰς τὴν γῆν ἣν ἄν σοι δεῖ..., God calls Abram to leave his land (γῆς). Here the word refers to his country or territory and is translated from the Hebrew ארץ

The word γῆ (like ארץ) is intimately related to οὐρανὸς (שמים) and when these two words are brought together they indicate "everything".

Forms

Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ἡ γῆ	αἱ γαῖαι
Genitive	τῆς γῆς	τῶν γαιῶν
Dative	τῇ γῇ	ταῖς γαίαις
Accusative	τὴν γῆν	τὰς γαίας
Vocative	γῆ	γαῖαι

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