



## Daily Verse and Comment

### Genesis 1:1

(1) In *the* beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

*A Faithful Version*

Even before leaving the first verse, a serious student of the Bible is confronted with a difficulty - unless he is willing to believe what the Bible consistently shows from the beginning to the end. The fourth word in the Bible is "[God](#)," *Elohim* in Hebrew. But that takes some explaining. *Elohim* is God - plural. "In the beginning *Gods* created the heaven and the earth." For an English-speaking person, this is confirmed in [Genesis 1:26](#), where the translators finally used plural pronouns ("Us" and "Our") to conform to the *plural* noun antecedent, *Elohim*.

The translators recognized in verse 26 that *Elohim* - "God" - was speaking to somebody, and He was speaking to someone who was just like Him, which is why the word *Us* is used. They were forced into using a plural pronoun. "Let *Us* make man in Our image." In fact, *Elohim* is used 66 times in a row at the beginning of the Bible before any other Hebrew word is translated into the English "God." That occurs in [Genesis 6:5](#) when finally another word is used for God.

Someone reading this beginning in Hebrew would have to be impressed that the author of this book was trying to get something across to the reader that "**Gods**" (plural) did everything - not an individual but a least two. *Elohim* is used in the [Old Testament](#) 2,570 times, and every usage is plural - "*Gods*."

As shown by this plurality, the God Family clearly consists of more than one Being, or more than one Person or Personality.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

**To learn more, see:**

**[The Nature of God: Elohim](#)**



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