

Greek (language)

Is the Greek word 'Theos', in the Septuagint/LXX, plural or singular?

2 Answers



Eleftherios Tserkezis, Natural speaker, BA in Classics, has also studied Modern Greek

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Theos is singular. The plural is *theoi*. However, note that ancient Greek was a highly inflected language; nouns had five distinct grammatical cases in each number. Thus, *theos* (nominative), *theou* (genitive), *theōi* (dative), *theon* (accusative), *thee* (vocative) are all singular. *Theoi* (nominative and vocative), *theōn* (genitive), *theois* (dative) and *theous* (accusative) are all plural.

Thus, Psalm 82:1 (Septuagint 81:1) reads:

Ὁ Θεός ἔστη ἐν συναγωγῇ θεῶν, ἐν μέσῳ δὲ θεοῦς διακρινεῖ.

Ho Theos estē en sunagōgēi theōn, en mesōi de theous diakrinei.

God (singular) standeth in the congregation of the **mighty** (in Greek, the noun 'gods' is used here in plural); he judgeth among the **gods** (plural).

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