

Covenantor

[Covenant] (*diatheke*): "...*diatheke* is properly *dispositio*, an "arrangement" made by one party with plenary power, which the other party may accept or reject, but cannot alter.

This lexical evidence establishes the original Biblical meaning of covenant. It fixes the fact that God, the Covenantor, expressed His *will*, *purpose*, and *disposition* when He offered His covenant to men. He indicated what He was disposed to do, and would do, upon the performance of such acts or conditions as stated in the covenant.

The Covenantor set the conditions and pledged himself to His people, the covenantees, that something is done, or would be done, for the covenantees upon the performance by the covenantees of the required condition or conditions.

The covenant was clearly marked out as being a *conditional covenant*. If the covenantees failed to perform the required conditions, the Covenantor would not be bound to fulfill the covenanted promises. The covenantees forfeited their covenant rights if they disobeyed the conditions imposed by the Covenantor. If they obeyed, then the Covenantor would be Jehovah Who Binds Himself; Jehovah, the Oath-Bound God; Jehovah Who Stands Committed to His Word. In putting himself under oath to his covenantees, God was under obligation by all His powers to make good his promises.

(God's Covenants and Our Time by Guy Duty, Minneapolis, Minnesota: Bethany Fellowship, Inc., 1965 [1964], 7-8)