

Authorized to Make Promises

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Introduction:

- A. Who is authorized to make promises? What constitutes a genuine promise?
 - 1. If there is to be a valid promise, there must be a fulfillment
 - 2. If there is to be a true fulfillment, there must be power
 - 3. If real power is exercised, it had to be authorized
 - 4. God has all authority; when He makes promises, we can be assured of their fulfillment
 - 5. Therefore, God must be behind a promise for it to be genuine
- B. God's promises are: Sure -- Full of Hope for the Righteous -- Conditional
 - 1. Acts 13:29-33

I. GOD'S PROMISES ARE SURE

- A. Faithful, enduring, everlasting, without end, incapable of not being fulfilled
 - 1. God cannot lie - Heb. 6:13-18; Titus 1:2
 - 2. God has always kept His promises to men
 - a. Gen. 6:17-18, 17:19; Rom. 4:20-21
 - 3. God kept His promise of salvation through Jesus
 - a. Gen. 12:3; Gal. 4:4-5
 - 4. God kept his promise to Jesus.
 - a. Psalm 16:10; Acts 2:31-32; Rom. 6:5

II. GOD'S PROMISES ARE FULL OF HOPE FOR THE RIGHTEOUS

- A. Our hope rests upon the promises of God - Heb. 6:18-19
- B. Our hope is based on our faith in God - Heb. 11:1
 - 1. Faith comes by hearing the word of God - Rom. 10:17
 - 2. Hope comes through hearing the promises that are in the word of God
 - a. John 8:32; Acts 2:38; Rom. 8:15-17
 - b. He promises to take care of the faithful - Matt. 6:33
 - c. He promises abundant life to the faithful - John 10:10
 - d. He promises a glorious resurrected body - 1Cor. 15:51-52
 - e. He promises that we shall be like Him - 1John 3:2
 - f. He promises eternal life - 1John 2:25

III. GOD'S PROMISES ARE CONDITIONAL

- A. Have always been conditional, and the condition is our faith and obedience
 - 1. Noah had to build the Ark, Abraham had to offer up Isaac, Moses had to appear before Pharaoh
 - 2. Ex. 15:26; Lev. 26:3-4; Deut. 30:10
- B. Are conditional for us today
 - 1. John 8:31-32, 15:10; Rom. 11:22; Col. 1:21-23; Heb. 3:14
- C. If we fail to meet God's conditions, another set of promises awaits.
 - 1. 2Thes. 1:6-9; Rom. 2:6-9; Heb. 2:2-3
- D. Only one backed by the authority of God is authorized to make promises.