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.