

Week 41

10/1/12

In the studio:

James: Welcome! Welcome to all of you. We welcome you to LIFE Today! I'm James Robison. Betty and I are grateful for this opportunity to speak to you.

I think we're at one of the most pivotal, critical moments in our nation's history. Those of you who are watching us all over the world must understand that I'm referencing not only what's going on all over the world as far as spiritual need but in our own nation. We're facing a very important moment.

I'm actually trying to focus the attention of the American people not just on an upcoming election for national leaders but on a direction for the nation because we need a course correction. We need to stop digging ditches. We need to stop walking in blindness; so often as blind leaders leading the blind into a ditch of debt and defeat and despair and depression and division and dissension. We need to offer healing.

I have on my lapel a Christian VOTE pin. I'm offering the Christian VOTE pin, there's actually a web site where you could direct your friends to the web site. Today however I will gladly send you two of the pins if you will ask for the book, *Indivisible*, which I believe is a textbook out of the valley, out of the ditch, out of the error of defeat and the debt and the division and offering the solutions. And of all things, Betty, I wrote this as a Protestant evangelical, highly visible with a Catholic philosopher, Jay Richards. And both the Catholic leaders and the Protestant leaders across the board embraced it and endorsed it. It's an important time for you to get this.

You say okay, what are the answers to all the social issues? What are the answers to marriage and family? What about poverty and how we address it? What about education? How do we correct these things? What about the economy and how do we address it? It's all here. We'll gladly send it to you.

Interestingly, we'll send it to you if you'll simply help us rescue young girls and women from being trafficked in the sex trade. So we're asking you to have a part in that. Betty, you and I understand that Christians have a responsibility and you and I have been appalled to know through surveys -- now think about this. Just listen to me, it's very important you hear this -- especially, I want you to zero in on me here for a moment because I want to talk very directly to you as though I was seated across the room where we were real close or perhaps it's to an entire congregation. Now listen

very closely, as believers, as people of faith, we have been left here as witnesses of him with a commission to make disciples not only of individuals, not merely of a church family but of the nations.

In other words, if we're going to be an answer to the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray and the prayer that he prayed in John 17, that we be one with the father and perfected in supernatural unity with one another, but also the model prayer which we so often call the Lord's prayer and that incredible phrase that says "thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

Now wait a minute, not in heaven some day when there is no more challenge. In other words, when there would be no need to put on the whole armor of God because there is no conflict. No need to call us "more than conquerors" because there has been no battle to win, no enemy, no obstacle to overcome. He has left us here as witnesses. And interestingly, in the Sermon on the Mount, when he's talked about our attitudes, which God knows we need a lesson in attitudes among believers and certainly among politicians and leaders nationally, we need a healing of our attitude. And the dissension and division, we need to understand what it is to have dialogue and debate and discussions that lead to meaningful solutions.

In that Sermon on the Mount, he said to us as believers, "You are here as salt and light." If you understand anything about the nature of the two you understand that salt is unquestionably, throughout all history, it is a preservative. It preserves the precious. Of course, it adds and enhances flavor and certainly, Christians should enhance every aspect of life, but we should certainly fulfill the main quality and characteristic and that's preserving the precious, protecting the innocent. What about the preciousness of life? Are we doing it well? What about the most innocent, helpless in the womb? How safe is that anymore? Should that matter to the salt? And the light? What does light do? The moment light comes on you see everything that's out of order and out of place; you can correct it or you can neglect it. But at least it reveals the situation, it reveals the way out of the wilderness. It reveals answers.

Jesus said, "You are a light and don't hide it." Now think about this a moment. Christians, you say, "How do you get it under a covering?" He said, "Don't put it under a bushel; don't put it under a cover." How might we as Christians hide the light? We simply live in the light and radiance of God's presence in our family, our situation, our church but we don't pierce the darkness. We don't look beyond our little comfortable world and begin to make a difference in a world that's upside down in its worldview and its direction.

You know what Jesus said about salt that loses its effect? He said it is good for nothing but to be trampled under the feet of men. Would you please consider the fact that much that is sacred and precious is being trampled under the feet of men? We make mockeries today of Christian businessmen. We're going to sit back and tolerate an assault on everything that is precious, our freedoms, our opportunities, and we're going to create more class warfare until we are not only concerned about the greed of the farmer and the fact that he thinks too much about himself by building only bigger barns, even though he's provided jobs and opportunities and a harvest, but he's wrapped up in himself and Jesus says he is a fool. Now we're not only going to say greed is a problem, we're going to condemn the fertile fields of opportunity, we're going to destroy the possibility of having the means and wherewithal to address any legitimate need.

And by the way, if there is a legitimate need that needs to be addressed, should it not be addressed by everyone who says that's a problem? Should we not all somehow want to assume responsibility rather than handing it off to somebody else that we can teach everybody else to resent and hate? Right now, 68 years I've been on this planet, we face the most important decision in the upcoming election in my lifetime and it's about principle, it's about worldviews. Has nothing to do with persons or parties but rather belief systems.

I want you to listen to a pastor do what I think is going to have to happen if America is going to be healed. I want you to listen to Pastor David Jeremiah. He is a great Bible teacher, a great author. He has a tremendous television ministry; pastor of Shadow Mountain Church in southern California, the San Diego area. I want you to listen to a charge that he gave not only to his church but to the church, to the community of faith here in America, and I believe around the world.

Listen to Pastor David Jeremiah. I suggest that you play this on Sunday, on Saturdays if you meet on the Sabbath. I suggest you play this in your churches. You can pull it down off of LifeToday.org. You may want to play everything you've just heard and end with this. Here's Pastor David Jeremiah.

Previously taped segment:

Dr. Jeremiah: Just a few days ago, we paused to celebrate 236 years of freedom as Americans. Here in San Diego, in the church that I pastor, we celebrated with stirring patriotic music, pageantry, and indoor fireworks. We also placed over 1,000 medals of honor around the necks of our veterans and those currently serving in the military.

[Cheers and applause]

This year among those we honored were 21 wounded warriors from the naval hospital, several surviving heroes from Pearl Harbor, and a young corpsman who has served five tours of duty in Iraq, one in Afghanistan, and was headed back to Afghanistan for his seventh appointment.

Each year, as I watch these brave men and women come forward to receive our gratitude, I wonder if what we have allowed to happen in our country is worthy of their sacrifice. Today, America seems to have lost her way. Wall Street columnist, Peggy Noonan sums it up best when she writes that "There is across America a sense that the wheels are coming off the trolley and the trolley is off the tracks and hurdling forward toward an unknown destination; that in some deep and fundamental way things have broken down and can't be fixed or won't be fixed any time soon."

"Financially, we are in a deep hole and continue to dig that hole deeper. People have lost their homes and along with losing their homes, many have lost their hope. Spiritually, we have marginalized the bible. We've trivialized marriage and we have neutralized the church. America today is in great turmoil. It feels like the soul of our nation has been taken from us."

Now, most of us here are fully aware of the precarious situation in which we find ourselves economically, spiritually, and politically. And, yet, at the same time if we're honest, we feel rather powerless to do anything about it. Now, I understand that feeling of helplessness but I want to tell you that we are not helpless.

In this election we will determine who the men and women will be who will lead us in this critical hour of our nation. Most everyone is telling me that this may be the most important election in our nation's history. Here is what you and I can do to make a

difference. First of all, we can pray. The Old Testament teaches us that if we humble ourselves and pray, God will hear from heaven and heal our land. And the New Testament assures that the fervent prayers of righteous men can make a difference. Yes, we can pray.

And secondly, we can register and vote. In the last election, less than half of those who are eligible to vote were registered. And of those who did register, less than half of them actually went to the polls and voted. Our young men and women give their limbs and their lives to assure our freedom and we don't even trouble ourselves to vote. No wonder we are in the mess we are in. Some say to me that they don't vote because they don't believe that one vote makes any difference. But the truth is you are you, the only you in the world.

Edward Everett Hale put it this way, "I am only one but still I am one. I cannot do everything but I can do something, and I will not refuse to do the something I can do."

History is full of stories of single individuals making a difference. Think of the many military battles that turned on the heroism of one man. Think of the men and women of the bible and the men and women of history who believed in the power of one and changed the world.

If we are honest, the real reason we don't vote is simply this. We are indifferent, and yet, we are so vocal and critical when things do not turn out the way we want them to. Several years ago during a class in political science in a Christian college, there was an unusual amount of complaining over the city politicians that had been elected in the recent election. Yet when the professor asked the students to raise their hands if they had voted, only two of them raised their hands and the rest of the class admitted that they had not even registered. Well, the professor told the class for the rest of the semester, if you didn't vote, you have lost your right to complain in this class. Years later the students still remembered that class.

As Christians, the Bible tells us that we are to be salt and light in the world and the time has come for us to let our voices be heard and our votes be counted. This time when you vote, don't vote your geographical location. Don't vote your religious denomination. Don't vote your political affiliation. Don't vote your racial identification. Don't even vote your union obligation. This time, when you vote, vote your values. Vote your beliefs. Vote your convictions. And if candidates want your vote, let them earn it the old-fashioned way. Let them make commitments to your values and let them know that you intend to hold them responsible.

Over the last years I've traveled, I have been asked this question over and over again. "Dr. Jeremiah, do you think God is finished with America?" But that is the wrong question. The right question is: Is America finished with God? Over these next days as we pray and register and vote, we can send a strong message to the watching world that we are still one nation under God.

I'm David Jeremiah and I approve of this message.

In the studio:

James: Every pastor in America that has the father's heart and the shepherd's heart needs to encourage people to take a stand. Jesus said -- now think about this -- to his followers, his disciples, that includes those of us who claim him as our Lord and our savior, God as our father who believe faith is important, Jesus said we're not only salt and light but I send you as sheep in the midst of wolves. That doesn't sound like a church picnic or a walk in the park. It sounds like we're going into conflict that necessitates that the Lord be our shepherd, that he prepare a table before us in the presence of all accusers and enemies, that he gives us all that we need to face every challenge. In the whole armor of God we fear no evil, we pierce the darkness, we preserve and protect the precious. Register and vote.

I would love to send you the Christian VOTE pins. I would love to send you the book *Indivisible*. This became immediately a New York Times bestseller. Many people believe that it could change the course of our nation. I believe it. I'm asking you to get

it. Here's what we're asking you to do to get it. You can go to the bookstore and get it, you can go online and get it.

But if you would simply help us as disciples of Jesus reach out to people who have been forsaken, who have been sold into bondage of all things in sex trafficking, as little children that have been preyed on and with promises to impoverished families that they're going to take the children, these predators and give them a future and then they take them into this trafficking, we can set them free. All over the world we have in place the mission workers and relief workers and we're building the homes and the places to rescue these. I want you to watch but then I want you to help us rescue.

Listen to this, some concerned Christians, some caring people said, "If you'll help we'll match your gift. Whatever you do will be doubled." Twice the impact. I want you to watch closely.

Mission clip:

>> The old lady, she fix the small girl to have sex with the foreigner. They pay a lot of money for the virgin.

Announcer: Human traffickers target innocent children who then become enslaved in a multibillion dollar a year industry called the sex slave trade.

>> Imagine this, one girl taken from her family, whether she is kidnapped or tricked. She is sexually abused over and over again, maybe eight to ten customers that she may have to service in one day.

>> We're fighting for children that can't fight for themselves, children that would be otherwise used in the sex trade or be bought and sold like animals for monetary gain. It is not right!

>> It is kids just like these that right now they're begging but they are also bait for predators. If we don't get them off the street they will be the next trafficked victims.

Announcer: And when these children become enslaved and don't comply, horrible things are done to them by the human traffickers.

>> When I was a child, I saw a lot of things in front of my eyes. There are cages somewhere. They are keeping a child as an animal. Just tie the hand, both hands like that [On either side of their head] and the customer will have sex with the child.

>> It is tragic what is happening to children, innocent children and it is not right. Our hearts are burdened by all the children that are crying out for help today, this moment, that need intervention, that need help, that are waiting for someone to hear their cries and we can only do it with your help.

End of clip

James: That's so horrible to imagine that those things happen to little children, that those precious little children begging but also they're preyed upon by the predators and they're taken and used. It's hard to even fathom people doing that -- hard to imagine that. But it's also hard to imagine, Betty, that we could look and know that we've got people in place and we've got systems that work and can build a haven of hope and that we wouldn't respond to just do something. It looks like everybody would want to.

Betty: I know as a mother, my first impression would be, oh, I want to go grab all those precious children and hold them in my arms and let them know there is a way out. But we can't do that physically, we can't gather them all up but there is a way out and that's through your prayers, first of all, but through your giving. We can provide a safe haven for these precious children that I feel like when I look into their eyes, they're opening their eyes every day wondering, is there any hope out there? Is someone going to save me? Well, we can be that way for them. I hope you will join us.

James: We've got the people that were called there like Carol Hart you saw that had those little children around them. We help them build the largest home for people in that area in Thailand, which make is the sex capital of the world, and to see what's happened there, to take those children who have been trafficked and then see them singing and happy in a beautiful place. We're doing the same thing, because a model, because Giselle saw something that she said, "Happened to me and I can help these people" and found the situation in Nepal, which is not very far from Everest, this great, incredible, beautiful mountain, and yet this terrible poverty and then these precious children taken into the sex traffic, most of them into India and other areas. But we can get them out.

She is the one that went in and said, "Once we get them out we're going to give them a trade. We're going to teach them how to do something where they can sell something

to make a living." We're giving these beautiful necklaces that they made. We'll send one to every one of you who say, "I'll rescue one of those out of that trafficking. I'll get one of them out of that prison." When you do it, it takes \$128, it's going to be doubled, it's going to be matched so you'll be rescuing two. And then think about this, some people say, "I couldn't give \$120. That's a stretch for me." \$64 right now will be doubled and then you'll have enough to rescue one.

So we're asking you right now to go to the telephone, dial the number, take your bankcard. We really need to hear from every one of you that have any ability to help at any level, knowing it will be doubled. If you can help us build that LIFE Center in Nepal, make a gift of \$1,000 or more. Please do that. We're sending "The Lion and the Lamb" bronze to say thank you. It's a beautiful collectible. We're sending the book, *Indivisible* for any gift that you make. If you make any gift of any size and we're also sending the Christian VOTE pin just to remind people the responsibility that we need to care about not only elections, vote, but also be concerned about praying about the direction of our country because we need to make some correction.

We'll send this to say thank you but I'm asking you to go online LifeToday.org, dial the number, take your bankcard, use it like a check. But please, make the best gift you can and know that it will be doubled because of the love and compassion of others who said we want to help you have an even greater effect. Thank you so much for making that call. Thank you for doing your part.

Begin video clip:

Announcer: Human trafficking... it's impossible to believe but at this very moment innocent children, many very young are being sold and forced into sexual slavery and exploited in every way imaginable, and someone must save them!

With your help today we can reach, rescue, and restore their hope for a better future and we can also build the New Hope Life Center in Nepal, which will be a safe house for children for years to come.

And now a miracle opportunity of \$384,000 matching gift with a cost of \$128 to rescue a child, that means your gift of \$128 will be matched to help rescue two children. And \$64 will be matched to help rescue one more child.

With your gift please request *Indivisible* by James Robison and Jay Richards, a soul-stirring read for every Christian who desires to restore America to the values that formed our strong foundation built on faith, family, and freedom.

With your gift of \$128, which today will help rescue two children, you will receive a unique and beautiful necklace handcrafted by women who are survivors of human trafficking and slavery.

Finally, please prayerful consider a gift of \$1,000 which will be matched to \$2,000 for the New Hope Life Center and you may request the beautiful bronze sculpture, "The Lion and the Lamb."

Please call, write, or make your gift online today!

End of clip

On the Mission Field:

Dwayne: Worldwide there is 1.2 million children that are trafficked into the sex industry every year. That's two every minute. Those are facts. You know what really concerns me? These are lives. It's our goal to reach, to rescue and to restore young girls who have been trafficked into this sex industry. So please, go to the phone right now and make that call because without you, we can't do anything to make life possible in places like this. You're a vital part of the rescue.

In the studio:

James: I really want to encourage you to make the \$1,000 gift or more if you can and ask for the "Lion and the Lamb" bronze. This is an absolutely beautiful treasure. But what you give will be doubled to help us build that LIFE Center, to rescue these girls in Nepal, one of the most impoverished areas, in the proximity of India, that's where they take them from this impoverished area. I'm asking you to help us with that. Then remember, whatever you do, you give \$128 to rescue one from the trafficking problem and situation, you've rescued two.

We're sending *Indivisible*, the hardback copy of a book that I think can change the course of our nation. If you really want to know, you want to change the statement "We perish for lack of knowledge," to say that's no longer true, we're going to have knowledge, get *Indivisible*. We'll send you the Christian VOTE pins. And by all means, register, pray, and vote principles. Thank all of you for joining us on LIFE Today. Thank you for watching. Thank you for your help! Thank you for your support and your prayers.