

Week 45

11/1/12

In the studio:

James: I'm James Robison. My wife Betty and I welcome you to LIFE Today. I do want to impress upon all of you the importance of praying about the direction that our nation is going to be going and led the next years. I think we're on a very perilous course. We need a course correction. And it will only come if we get direction from above. It is not a matter of choosing a party or some personality but rather looking at the principles and the issues we face and asking God for wisdom.

Jay Richards and I joined together to write the book, *Indivisible: Restoring faith, family, and freedom before it's too late*. Where are we headed? What is our source of dependence? We've got a lot to pray about. I hope you've read *Indivisible*. I want to remind you that we have a responsibility not just a privilege but a responsibility to vote.

Betty, we hosted a conference this summer, "Under God Indivisible." Great preachers! You're going to hear a former Dallas Cowboy middle line backer, played for the San Diego Chargers, the Seattle Seahawks. He pastors Antioch Church in Kirkland, Washington. Now I want you to really understand that you're about to get a whole truckload of truth about the light of God, the truth of God, and obeying it.

And then you're going to hear from a Catholic, the President of Acton Institute, one of the greatest economic minds in the country. A man who loves people, a pastor who loves people, both of them love America. Listen to messages that will stir you to faith, prayer, and action.

From the Under God Indivisible Conference:

Ken Hutcherson: I feel like the two hens that were walking down interstate I5 in front of Seattle. One hen looked at the other hen and said, "You know, I've always had a desire to lay an egg on I5 during rush hour." The other hen looked at her and says, "Well, if you do, you better lay it on the line and you better do it quick."

[Laughter]

And with the amount of time that I have, I feel like a hen.

[Laughter]

I have always thought of myself as a rooster.

[Laughter]

Only white people can take that away from you.

[Laughter]

How many of you here, 'cause I got to do it quick and I got to lay it on the line, understand that light travels at 186,000 miles per second? Does anyone here know why light travels at 186,000 miles per second? Just to give you a little understanding of how fast that is, the third rock from our sun, 93 million miles away is the earth. The earth is 25,000 miles of circumference. Light traveling at 186,000 miles will surround the earth 7 times in one second.

You know why? I'm going to give you the answer and then it's going to be your responsibility to respond back to me after this. Light travels at 186,000 miles per second because in Genesis chapter 1 verse 3 God said let there be light.

[Applause]

And light obeyed at 186,000 miles per second.

[Laughter]

Light travels 186,000 miles per second because God said it and it obeyed. To get how far light travels in one minute, it's really simple. You multiply 186,000 times 60. Light travels in one minute, 11,160,000 miles. And it's been doing it that way every minute since Genesis 1:3.

[Applause]

Why does light travel at 11,160,000 miles a minute? God said it and light obeyed. To get how far light travels in one hour, you will multiply 11,160,000 times 60. Light travels in one hour 669,600,000 miles a minute an hour. Why does light travel 669,600,000 miles in one hour?

Audience: God said it and light obeyed.

Ken Hutcherson: If you want to get how far light travels in one day...

[Laughter]

And light has been traveling 669,600,000 miles since Genesis 1:3. And I have never heard light say, "Well, I don't know if I should continue to be disobedient because

people may misunderstand me.” To get how far light travels in one day, you would multiply 669,600,000 times 24.

[Laughter]

Light travels in one day 16,070,400,000 miles and it's been doing it every day since Genesis 1:3. And you know what's so amazing? I have never heard it say, “You know, I got to slow down a little bit because I'm tired.

[Laughter]

Why does light travel 11,070,000,000 miles in one day?

Audience: God said it and light obeyed.

Ken Hutcherson: If you want to get how far light travels in one year, you'll multiply 11,070,400,000 times 365. Light travels in one year 5,865,696,000,000 miles. Why does light travel 11 billion, why does light travel 5 trillion miles in one year? Can you tell me why?

Audience: God said it and light obeyed it.

Ken Hutcherson: I've never heard light say, “You know, if I keep doing this, people are going to misunderstand me and say it's all about me. So I better slow down and be like everybody else. You know, they may misunderstand me so much they may take away by 501c3.”

[Laughter]

Do you understand according to Genesis chapter 1 verse 3, verse 5 it says God separated light from the darkness and it was good. The nearest star is Alpha Centauri, 4.5 light years away. You know what a light year is? That is not 365 days without seeing any men of color. That is a white year, that is another sermon.

[Laughter]

Traveling at the speed of light at 186,000 miles per second, it will take you four and a half years to get from our star to Alpha Centauri. It reminds me of the two brothers that said, “Hey, we got it figured out. We're going to take a rocket and we're going to go to the sun.” I said, “You can't go to the sun, you'll burn up.” They said, “We got it figured out. We're going to go at night.”

[Laughter]

Can anybody tell me why light travels in four in a half years 186,000 miles per second, 26,395,632,000,000 miles, why?

Audience: 'Cause God said it and light obeyed.

Ken Hutcherson: You better do the same.

[Applause]

Robert Sirico: When I came in earlier today, somebody asked me if I knew Jesus.

[Laughter]

I said, "Well, yes, I do." And I know his mother as well.

[Laughter]

Right next door to the house that I lived in a number of years ago, there was a huge tree that shot up well above the third story of the house. And I noticed a curious thing. I'm not well acquainted with trees, I grew up in Brooklyn, New York. I saw one once, as I remember.

[Laughter]

It may have died by now. But this was a tree in Michigan where I lived and I looked up at the top of this tree and I saw that part of it was blooming and part of it was dead. So a friend suggested that I call a tree doctor. Who knew? From tree doctors... And he came and he examined the roots and examined some of the dead leaves. He came up on the porch and he said, "Sorry, father, the tree is dead. You have to take it down." I said, "How could the tree be dead? After all it is blooming." He said, "It is an illusion. The sap is still running through the tree, but the roots are dead. And in fact, the tree is living off of its past life."

And I think sometimes about America when I think about that. But I don't believe that our roots need die. I believe that they can be revived. I think we can save America and if we save America, we will do so by tending to the roots. And what is the root of the American concept? It's a very ancient root. It was not invented by Americans. It was discovered by Americans. That root goes back to biblical times. It understands that the dignity of the human person is part and parcel of who the human person is.

That human beings, the concept of who human beings are is that we are unrepeatable.

That we possess a dignity that comes from outside of the human circumstance, outside of society. That our rights inhere not by virtue of society but are merely recognized by just societies. The dignity of the human person, this Judeo-Christian understanding of anthropology is at the root of this freest most prosperous, most progressive, most liberal, and the right understanding of that word experiment in human society that the world has ever seen.

C.S. Lewis expresses this Judeo-Christian anthropology beautifully in one of his essays when he said that you have never met a mere mortal. Every one with whom you have ever come in contact, everyone with whom you have ever loved or hated, every shop girl from whom you have ever purchased anything is either an immortal splendor or in everlasting horror. But you have never met a mere mortal.

And then Lewis went on to say, that the most sacred thing that presents itself to our senses next to or neighbor, the most sacred thing is our neighbor. The American experiment formed a set of institutions that recognized this dignity of the human person. And the Judeo-Christian understanding of this anthropology is what enabled us to build the institutions of private property, contract, law, the university, the hospital. Institutions of charity and international charity that served people not because they were believers, but because we are believers. And all of this is threatened.
[Applause]

All of this is being threatened by an anti-anthropology because it fails to understand that we are immortal splendors. That treats people just as though they were material objects without a destiny beyond this world.

If freedom is lost on our watch, if the end of freedom comes about in our epoch, it will be because we have forgotten what the end of freedom really is. The true freedom is not to be found in an empty vacuum. The orientation of freedom is the truth. The truth of who we are in our immortal dignity, made in the image and likeness of God. Each of us is unrepeatable from the moment of our conception until our natural death. Each of us possessing a destiny beyond this world.

And to those who advocate a kind of class warfare, and class conflict, we say with Mother Teresa, we do not believe in class conflict or warfare. We believe rather in class encounter. Where the rich save the poor and the poor save the rich. Thank you very much.

[Applause]

End of clip

In the studio:

James: Wow! Dear God! I will live out the rest of my life -- Betty and I will soon be married 50 years. In the months ahead we will celebrate with many of you our 50th wedding anniversary and the 50 years that we've experienced in ministry. And I'm so thankful that we've watched God bless and see millions of people saved and millions of lives saved.

But Betty, I want to live the rest of my life not only to love you with all my heart and love our children and grandchildren and great grandchildren to come, but I want to live to see the prayers of Jesus answered. Now think about that a moment. We all want our prayers answered. We all know people we want their prayers answered. What about Jesus' prayers? Our Father who art in heaven -- it's personal -- hallowed be thy name. You're holy but you're approachable. You can approach the throne of God; it's a throne of grace boldly. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done right here right now on earth in the midst of the darkness even as sheep in the midst of wolves. I want to see the prayer he taught us to pray answered -- Your will done now in us on earth.

And then the Lord's prayer in John 17, that we not only be one in relationship with the Father as the model prayer says but as Jesus is one with the Father. He moves, we move. He looks, we look. He cares, we care. He reaches out with hands of love, we reach out with hands of love. We're sanctified in truth, purified in it, not divided by it, and perfected in supernatural unity. One nation under God indivisible and only then with liberty and true justice for all -- and to you be the glory. I want to see Jesus' prayers answered.

One of the things Jesus has told us to do is give a cup of water in his name, to feed the hungry, to notice those that are so often overlooked. And when we do that, we notice him -- we do it to him. I want you to listen to a couple that joined us feeding the hungry just like Father Sirico referred to, where the rich bless the poor and the poor bless the rich, and we become a family. Listen to their story. It could so easily be yours.

Previously taped video:

Jorja: Well, when we watch the show and we have the clips of the hungry children, it's really hard for us to even imagine that in this country, someone being in those conditions. I think what says something to me is when you look into their eyes. There is no language barrier when you can look into their eyes and see the need. And in contrast it is wonderful to look into the faces, into the eyes of the children who have just received their bowl of food.

Dan: It's very gratifying to me as a businessman to know that we would be working with a quality organization, one that's responsible and truly dedicated to their mission.

Jorja: We know that LIFE Outreach is good soil. Life is short and we really want to be good stewards of our time, our money, our gifts that the Lord has blessed us with that we can be a blessing to others and that it's used wisely.

Dan: Some of the things that we have received from LIFE Outreach like these little statues and the bowl and things, we use it for feeding around the house. That's what I use for cereal. The grandkids ask about that and then Georgia has a teaching moment with the grandkids.

Jorja: Because it is so important that we leave a legacy to our kids and grandkids. We feel like our giving to LIFE Outreach is very important and it's made a difference for us to be able to share that with our children and with our grandchildren. We want to teach them that it is so much better to give than to receive.

In the studio:

James: Boy, Jorja and Dan, I wish I could just put my arms around you and I know you feel like we do. I know you realize that you've helped us put God's arms around a world of hurt. Thank you both! You really are representative, I think, Betty, of so many couples and individuals and many people on fixed incomes, and then many people who have been quite successful who just say, "I want to bless someone. I want to give them -- I want to give them some food. I want to give them some love." What an incredible picture, I think, of so many of the viewers of LIFE Today in Australia and Europe and Canada, and here in the United States. I believe they are just very typical.

Betty: I do too, James. I think of our friends and supporters of LIFE Outreach and I believe you are good soil where God's love grows and his joy in giving and helping others comes out of us through you because there is good soil there. You pass on the blessings of God to others and that's what we do when we help these children. We're being good soil for God to grow his love and to express it to others.

James: When someone is sick, and I think most of you know our youngest daughter had such a battle with cancer over a period of time and I know all of you prayed and we're so very grateful for that. But you know when somebody is sick in your family you say -- I mean they don't feel good. I wish somebody would tell me what's wrong. And then if they tell you what's wrong and then they can say, "But it could be right.

You could be well. You can get well. Immediately, you can be." And hope springs up and then they get well and you rejoice.

Well, listen to me please. We've diagnosed the situation overseas, firsthand, up close and personal. It will never go away. It's in my heart to put God's arms around them. I know what's wrong. They're hungry, just like a lot of you are spiritually hungry, that's why we come to you to help you. That's why you care about the future of the country and the freedom of the world and we inspire you and challenge you to be guardians of truth and life and freedom. But when you see a need and you can meet it, Jesus said, "If you do it to the least of these, you've done it to me. You've extended my hands when you meet their need." We believe just as that beautiful couple, you want to do it.

I want to ask you to do it today. We come to you twice a year and for a period of time we ask you, "Would you help us feed children for the next months?" A gift of \$30, \$50, or \$100 will feed three, five, or ten children. Would you make that special gift please? Would you do it right now? If there is any way you can help us take care of 10 children make the \$100. We're asking you to even give \$125 and enable us to give 25 more bowls.

We're giving the beautiful Sarah Young *Jesus Calling Study Bible*. It's absolutely fabulous! What a tremendously beautiful leather bound Bible, and with those devotionals. And we're sending the book that so many people ask me to write. Beth Moore begged me to write it. Many have! And it's about the lessons we learn from our pets, from wildlife, *The God of All Creation*. You will love this devotional book. You won't be able to put it down. We're sending it just to say thanks.

You can go online LifeToday.org or just dial that number and take your bankcard but please do it. Help us feed three, five, or ten children for the next months. Whatever you can do, you make the best gift you can. Would you please? Thank you for doing it.

Pre-taped video:

Announcer: At this very moment a child is drawing his last breath struggling to stay alive due to a lack of food. Sadly, this impoverished child is not alone and without our help many like him face death as well. Today you can make a difference. You can help save a life.

Life's mission feeding teams are in place right now ready to answer the hunger cries of 400,000 suffering children in remote areas of Africa. With previous food reserves gone

and parts of Africa facing its worse food shortage in more than two decades, we desperately need to replenish our supplies immediately. Your life-saving gift of \$30, \$50, or \$100 will help feed and care for three, five, or ten children for three full months.

With your gift, we would like to send you James Robison newest book, *The God of All Creation*. Through his personal observations of animals and wildlife, James shares heartwarming stories and spiritual lessons of God's love and grace.

With your gift of \$125 to help feed ten children, you may request the new *Jesus Calling Devotional Bible* featuring 260 scripture insights from the author of the *Jesus Calling* devotional, Sarah Young.

Finally, please prayerfully consider a gift of \$1,000 to help save the lives of 100 children, and you may also request "The Lion and the Lamb" bronze sculpture. Call, write, or make your gift online today.

End of video

In the studio:

James: Betty and I are both wearing the Christian VOTE pin. She has one on her lapel, I've got one on my collar. It is the cross forming the T, vote. Christians should vote. What a privilege. What a responsibility. Pray; vote principle.

If you haven't read the book *Indivisible*, this really is the road map out of the ditch that we have dug with foolish decisions. If you haven't read it, you want to read it because we've got an important election but even more important, we've got a direction we must go as we the people. It's the only way we're going to correct the course.

Thank you so much for your help. I hope you will ask for *The God of All Creation*. We'll be sending it to you to say thank you for helping us share life. Whatever gift you can make to help us feed these precious children, hundreds of thousands of them, they depend upon us, three, five, ten of them at a time, whatever you can do. Thanks for your help.