

3/14/17
 Week 12: WFL
 James and Betty Robison
 Jim Hylton

James: Thank all of you. You're a great encouragement. Thank you. Welcome to *LIFE Today*. We're going to talk about *Living Amazed*. It is not a book *Living Amazed*; that happens to be the title of the book: Divine Encounters can Change Your Life; how they do that. I want you to know that beyond anything you've ever imagined is available to you right now in the joy of life, peace in your heart, divine direction, wisdom, understanding, and enabling that is probably beyond even your imagination or comprehension; what God can do with you.

I think it is very important -- Betty, I just so long for everybody watching to realize that if there was a way we could be in your home any more personally than we are right now, we'd like to be sitting there. One of the things we would try to communicate with you is that you are no accident. I don't care what kind of circumstances you find yourself in, God has designed and destined you for a purpose that is so great and so exciting and so meaningful that it's very difficult for you to comprehend. There's not a small part in God's purpose, or small person, in the body of Christ which is a family of believers and fellowship who believe God, who believe that Jesus not only lived and died but he lives now and that his spirit lives in us.

And Betty, he can bring us together like the parts of the body, the hand, the fingers, the wrist, the lower arm, the upper arm, all of them connected and functioning properly and healthily when submitted to the head.

This is what *Living Amazed* looks like if you get the whole body to fit together. The body of Christ is even more amazing than this incredibly designed human body that is so difficult to explain but so magnificent in its functionality and how it works.

So I want you to understand that God has designed you and destined you for a kingdom purpose now. And I want you to see that you can begin *Living Amazed*. This is the story of my life, you might say but it is so much more than that. It is divine encounters, when you talk to someone and everything changes. The encounters that I've had with highly visible people and how they were impacted. It continues today. It is amazing!

And there are almost no exceptions for the connection when the Lord allows me to have an opportunity to speak into someone's life, something amazing happens. I don't care whether it is

Muhammad Ali -- what happened in a moment? A supernatural moment that couldn't happen. The result was amazing. What happened when Robert Duvall began to watch and then came to our home? What happened when Ronald Reagan sat down and I told him about a prayer meeting that changed his life and ultimately changed history? What happened?

What happened when I went to hear a preacher talk about Romans one, and Betty, I had been defeated, even though I was gifted and affected to preach, I had begun to be so defeated in my attitude and anger and my actions, I think I had become arrogant and insensitive even though I could preach.

And I told Betty, "I'm so despondent." And I was distracted and attracted in the wrong ways. I didn't feel good. I kept having chronic throat infections and my stomach would get upset periodically through the week. I went to hear a man speak in a town in Alabama who was a pastor I kind of knew, and knew they were seeing some wonderful things in the spirit realm but I was led to go.

And he said something. He said something, Betty, about the power. He is reading in Romans about the power that raised Jesus' dead body from the grave. And he said, "And that power that raised Jesus' body from the grave lives in you" and then it was almost with a broken heart, "And so many live defeated, downtrodden, sick, depressed."

And I'm just sitting there, God! And it began to send me on a journey. Jim Hylton was that man. Would you welcome Jim Hylton? Jim?

[Applause]

Jim, I think you were pastor at Lake Country Baptist Church; is that correct?

Jim: That's correct; 18 years.

James: That's where you were when you went to Dothan, Alabama and I'd had a great crusade in Dothan. We set the attendance record and they had what they called like their Super Bowl in Alabama in that stadium and we beat that record. We filled the sides and the field.

And so I'd gone back to see what this was going on in Dothan. By the way, later, at Lake Country you started a Christian school, Lake Country Christian School; our daughter and our son went there -- our youngest daughter and our son. It is a great school.

What's going on there in Dothan that got my attention? And you said that and it started something that led to the total change of a highly visible preacher's life to bring me back to first

love. Because see I was gifted and God was blessing that gift and I'd preached faithfully, but I was personally defeated because I didn't -- I'd lost my first love. I'd gotten caught up in ministry in doing the work of the Lord rather than the Lord of the work. That's a common phrase but too often too accurate. What was going on there?

Jim: Well, the Lord had come in an awakening, in which people are suddenly aware of him. So it spread throughout the entire city. You know Dudley and T.D. Hall are from Alabama and they had connections in that city. So we went there to the citywide crusade. They invited me to come. So the meetings that extended -- and you learned of this occurrence, the awakening, and you wanted to go because you loved T.D. Of course, he was your crusade director.

James: I think I was curious but I also think I was tired of being defeated. I just believe that.

Jim: So you were more hungry than I knew but I knew you wanted to come. And you wanted to see what the Lord is doing. So as a shared from Romans 8:11, "The same spirit that raised Jesus from the dead is in our mortal body, not our immortal body, in our mortal body to give life to the mortal body."

And I was quickened in that verse and in that chapter on my way there that day. I had no idea that it was for you. It was for everybody and it was for me as well. But as you heard, you were wise enough to embrace this: This is my promise. This word is for me. Because Psalm 107, verse 20 says that God sent his word and healed them and delivered them from their destructions.

And of course, I had no idea you were being healed. But many times in ministry I see that happen; just in the declaring of the word God moves in that moment when a person receives; and we receive when we believe. The minute we receive what God is saying by believing him for his integrity and his love and his desire for us to be in on everything he is, plus everything he has. Which has characterized your life. You knew the meaning of that. If there's ever been a person that I've known that wanted to hear God more than they wanted anything else it's you. And you began hearing him. I don't know how much of that is covered in this book.

James: Well, the book is just out so you've just gotten it. You've watched the journey of me *Living Amazed*.

Jim: And your journey epitomizes what's to happen to all of us. You began hearing him when you were a very young man and you began to live knowing he was speaking and you were in agreement and saying what he was saying. And so that day, I had no idea he was healing you of those discomforts in your life and the turbulence you were having in your thought life and the depression that you were in at times. But of course, I was elated that he had done that.

James: Well, you were a part of the miracle. Betty, you watched the miracle up close. As a matter of fact, she prayed for the miracle and when it happened it was a little bit beyond what she'd prayed for.

Betty: Quite a bit beyond what I prayed for. But I want to thank you personally because you were available for God to use you to touch his heart and his heart touched my heart. And that was just the beginning for us a couple, as a ministry in the freedom and the healing that God brought into our lives. I want to thank you for that. And not only you, but your beautiful wife because she personally took me on and mentored me and I'll never forget it.

Jim: That's beautiful! Well, we've received far more than we have given, believe me. We're honored just to see the Lord in each of you and how you walked that out and how you express that. So I want to thank you for all who benefit from what you're doing right now.

James: Well, as a pastor who has watched and seen firsthand, would you say that my journey has been amazing, that's it's been biblically amazing right now in today's world?

Jim: That's a great title and an accurate title of this book because you have lived it and you have lived it in such a way it is amazing -- truly amazing because the supernatural element of God mingled with the natural things of God are combined in your life. We are not meant to operate totally in the supernatural. We're to operate in the natural with as much comfort as we do in the supernatural. And you move back and forth in that spectrum as easily and as well as anybody I know.

James: Do you think I've inspired other people to understand they can live that way? Because you helped me begin to learn that. Do you think what I share, in my life's journey, would inspire people to realize it is for them?

Jim: Absolutely.

James: I want to say something. Jim Hylton blessed me a few years ago to show me so clearly we're on this earth on a divine kingdom assignment. We need to escape this mentality of we can't just wait to go to heaven. We need to be anxious to get heaven here. By that I mean the manifestation of the glory of heaven, the glory of God right here on this dark planet; to be able to see the glory and the brightness of our great God. Do you understand that? And to be here with a salt and light effect; to protect and preserve the precious and illuminate the way out of darkness and defeat and despair and every ditch we find ourselves in.

Jim gave me that book on kingdom life and it really moved me. Now there's another book here, we're not going to have a whole lot of time to explain it because I want people to get it but it is

Being At Ease. Now look at this next line: Thinking at ease, lessening disease. This is the rest and the peace that only God can give us. I want people to get the book. Again, time's limited today. You came here to talk about the journey but this is phenomenal. They can get it on Amazon, they can get it at Barnes & Noble. Do you have a website where our viewers can say, "Jim Hylton, I bear witness with your spirit. I want to read what God's put on your heart." Could they go to your website, get the book, find out perhaps how you could help them in some way? What would be that website?

Jim: It is simply the name of the book, *BeingAtEasebook.com* -- *BeingAtEasebook.com*. That puts them right on to the website. And they have a little introduction and then they have all the various parts of the website where they can order the book right there.

James: If people wanted you to come and share in their circle, their place, do you ever do that?

Jim: Indeed.

James: Is that how they would communicate?

Jim: Only by invitation. It is like the lady that went to the wedding. The old maid that went to the wedding. She needed an invitation to be the bride.

[Laughter]

So I have to have an invitation when I go.

James: If they phone there, they wanted to find out how they could even talk to you because you're so gracious, you're so helpful. I feel like this healing is in your being and you inspire people to draw nigh unto him.

Jim: It is just the love of God. You know love is to God what wet is to water. And so you don't go buy water and wonder if it is wet; do you? Nobody is advertising, "We've got the wettest water in town." All water is wet. And God is love.

James: That is so strong. I mean God shouted that to me the other day. It's just like love never fails and God is love that never fails. And we really need to try that. By the way, I'm so forceful sometimes, you'll say, "Do you love me when you're just telling me the truth and you're holding the standard up real high and you're waving it?" Yes! Because he's the standard, he is the attraction. He is the one who to be exalted. He is the one that draws all men to himself. He is the shelter, he is the shadow, he is the shepherd. And see the zeal here. This zeal is not lacking love. I'm zealous for the Lord. I'm zealous for you to live amazed. I'm zealous for people to

hear what you have to offer.

Jim: See the energy that you're in, the energy that I feel at 81 years of age, I'm more energetic at this stage of my life than ever before.

James: And I'm not going downhill; am I?

Jim: No, you're not! But see that's the way God means for us to live. Because every cell in our body is encoded with the memory of creation; 60 trillion cells in our body is encoded.

James: Yes! Y'all like this guy? Would you say thank you to Jim Hylton? And his book, *Being At Ease*. There are some of you that just automatically, "I've got to have that." There is the website; you see it online, on the screen. Jim, thank you. Thank you for sowing seeds that enable me to live amazed and really go into another level of amazement in a time in my life, which as with many of you, you just needed that shift.

Father, I'm praying for every person that feels overlooked, left out, unimportant, to realize that as vitally important to your kingdom purpose they are as any member of our physical body is vital to our effectiveness. Father, magnetically, supernaturally draw them unto yourself right into the shelter and shadow and let them begin to live amazed; in Jesus' name.

And like Jim says, to live in ease and be able to deal even with disease.

Jim, our viewers are amazing. Right now you could say, "Okay. You're changing direction." Yes. I want to direct the love that God is to begin to flow freely, undeniably, visibly, in a manifestation through you. I want you to think about this. Imagine a little child being taken, being taken captive, being exploited and their little bodies sold. And as the child gets older and they're being used, if they don't cooperate to hear that person say, "We know where your sister is. And if you don't behave we'll kill your sister." And that will be their little sister. That's how these people operate. It's awful!

And listen to me. Love sets them free. But that love is expressed through people yielded to that love as mission workers who planted their life in the midst of this pain, and you enable them to rescue these who are perishing, rescue those who are trafficked sexually. I want you to watch very closely. Listen to Sheila Walsh as she is right in the midst of it representing Jesus, representing your love. Watch.

On the mission field

Sheila: Honestly, Ralph I don't think I've ever felt such darkness in a place. It makes me

almost feel physically sick to my stomach.

To see it with your own eyes, it's really hard to describe. You might be tempted to think, they chose this. That's so not true for so many of them. You take that makeup off, they're little girls.

They were told, "Yeah! Come to the city and you'll be a waitress or you'll work in a hotel." So they come full of hopes and dreams, maybe to make some money for their family and then they're immediately trafficked. They just break them. They lock them in a room and they don't feed them, they don't let them sleep. They tell them, "If you don't stand out there and smile you'll be punished." And every now and again they'll remove one of the girls from the group and they'll never see her again.

One of the girls said, "I was told if I tried to escape from this brothel, what they told me was, 'Okay. You go ahead. You escape. We know where your eight-year old sister lives.'" Can you imagine that?

These girls are as much in prison as people who are behind bars. We can bring the light of Christ to the darkest place I've ever been in my life.

We need to get these young girls off these cold evil streets and into a place where they can find healing and hope.

James and Betty, I think of all your grandkids. Some of these young girls out there are the age of your grandkids. This should not be allowed to happen. We've got to do something. We've got to do it now. We've got to do it in Jesus' name.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Thank you, Sheila. Thank you, Lord. Not one thing is exaggerated, it's understated if anything.

Betty, when you watch this as a mother and a grandmother, and now a great grandmother, and you love children, what do you think?

Betty: I can't even imagine my children or my grandchildren having to experience something like this -- their lives being taken away from them. They're being lied to. They're being abused. And most of these children are from homes that they need the money; they need any way to help take care of their families. And these girls so many times are told, "We'll give you a good job."

You come with us." Then they put them in prison, so to speak. And a lot of times they drug them so they can't fight them. They have control over them.

It just breaks my heart we live in a world that does this. We need to be aware of it. But we can make a difference. We have made a difference with a lot of these children. But there are so many more of them that are crying out, "Somebody help me!"

James: Well, Betty, for years now we have made the difference in tens of thousands of children. Right now with your help we're going to reach out to 5,000 specifically targeted where we know we have the facilities to take care of these we've rescued.

Now think about it. These little children are oftentimes led into this. Sometimes they're just kidnapped off the street. They just disappear. And in those areas like Thailand and other places in Asia and around the world, they don't have the access of knowing how to go get them and they just disappear. They take them and they take total control of them.

But many times they will go to poor families and they will tell them they're going to give a child a job and they're going to educate them and that the child will be able to send money back to the family. Sometimes they'll even give them some money, "This is what we're able to do." And they do it with hope and yet they lose the child.

This is so horrendous worldwide; it's not something that just happens overseas. It's happening here. We're having a lot of our teenagers in junior highs and high schools trafficked right here. Any time there is a big sporting event there are people that are trafficked. And there are great organizations here working to diffuse that and expose it and correct it. Thank God for that.

But overseas where these children are, they are literally taken as a slave -- they're sex slaves. And to think that anybody would exploit children like that or that would be so weak that the people would be attracted to a little girl or a young girl; but they pay more for the younger child. You say, "What a demented, what a sick world!" Yes, what a demonic activity is raging and prevailing in much of the world.

But the love of God is the way we get them out. And to think the love that sends these missionaries and those workers there to help them, it is amazing. You're the ones with your love that enable them to do it. It takes \$128; so small an amount to get them out and get them into a safe place. Could you do that? \$1280, and my how I pray you will do that if you can -- ten are rescued for that. Can you help?

Now think about this. Some wonderful caring friends have said, "We will match \$200,000 immediately -- we'll match it." Which means \$1280, not just ten rescued, 20; \$64 now is

doubled, it is \$128 and we've got another one. You say, "I couldn't give the \$128 but I can give the \$64" -- now it's doubled. There's a level at which you can participate.

Would you right now go online to the website you see, dial the number, take your bankcard, use it like a check? Please make the most loving gift you can to rescue these precious ones. It works. Love doesn't fail.

We have some gifts to send you, *Living Amazed*. We want to give you the gift, we want to give you a journal to study as you support, along with *Living Amazed*. And we'll send you the "Determined Eagle" if you're able to make that gift because we want you to set captives free and you to soar.

Father, I pray that for every person watching that will simply do your will; in Jesus' name.

Right now, go online, dial the number, use your bankcard like a check. Thank you for doing it.

Begin video clip

Announcer: Innocent children and young people longing to be loved and cared for are being abducted and sold at the hands of violent predators, their spirit and body broken under horrific emotional and physical abuse. Through Mission: Rescue Life you can reach out to save children vulnerable to sex traffickers. You can help rescue those already enslaved and you can help restore their lives and give them a future.

Now a generous opportunity of a \$200,000 matching gift means your gift of \$128 to help rescue a child will be matched to help two children. Your \$64 gift will be matched to help rescue one child from the horrors of human trafficking. And a \$32 rescue gift will be doubled to \$64.

With your gift we will send you James Robison's new book, *Living Amazed: How divine encounters can change your life*. As you read these inspiring stories you'll learn how to live amazed in the presence of God 24 hours a day.

With your gift of \$100 or more you'll receive James's new book, along with the companion Amazed Journal so you can record accounts in your own life where you're amazed at God's goodness.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1280 which will now help rescue 20 children and you may request our beautiful new "Determined Eagle" bronze sculpture.

Please call, write, or make your secure gift online today.

End of clip

In the studio

James: We are sending you *Living Amazed* for any gift. Let me just say this to you. Pray about getting a copy for a friend to help them in living amazed.

There are many of you watching who are going to be drawn by God to get *Being At Ease*: Thinking at ease, lessening disease. There is something to it. Jim has been such a blessing to me and to Betty and to so many of our friends -- and he will be to you. He's a treasure.

Would you join us in saying thanks to Jim Hylton? Jim, thank you for depositing the love and life of God.

Thank you for watching. Thank you so much for helping us touch people with God's love. Thank you for doing it.