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Week 28: Summer WFL

James and Betty Robison

"The Future of Freedom" #2

James: Well, Betty and I welcome you to *LIFE Today*. We feel like this is, perhaps, the most important time we'll ever share with you.

Both of us are just really wanting not only to get our arms around you and let you know how much we love you and appreciate those of you who've helped us reach out to people for many years who are too often overlooked. They are truly without a doubt "the least of these" by Jesus description. They were hungry, they were downtrodden, they were naked, they were thirsty and you met their need. Jesus said, "And you actually did that for me." And he talked about separating sheep from goats and he made sure everybody understood these are the sheep. These are the people that really understand the shepherd's heart.

Yesterday, Betty when I was talking on the previous program, whether you're watching online or watching it right here and we're actually asking that those of you who care about the future of freedom here in the United States and around the world, and you want God's best, and you don't think we need to let the gates of hell prevail in God's kingdom right here because Jesus said his kingdom is at hand, it's in us. There is a kingdom to come but there is a kingdom that has come. And the king has come and the king is in us. And he sent another one of the same kind to live in us, Jesus in us. And he said as his body that as a body of believers we would do greater things than he did. And when you think about it, how could you possibly do that?

Well, the millions of people, as each member in the body make up the body submitted to

the head, we touch the whole world, around the world -- at one time we can do that if we would just let the Holy Spirit carry us, flow through us like a river of life and love, which is what we've been encouraging you to allow to flow freely through you as a member of the body.

Right now, Betty and I are coming to you to let you know we have been in ministry more than 55 years, married more than 56 years and what we're doing as we reach out to the least of these is so important. But we want you to understand that we know right now God has called us to reach out in your behalf. Now think about this a moment. We're reaching out to you to assist you and lift you up and to help all those you love have the blessings of freedom, and see freedom's foundation restored so that the fruitful fields can abound in the fruit of blessing enabling us to freely bless others because God has blessed us and freedom blesses everyone. Freedom does give you the opportunity to live with your fist clinched in the face of a holy God and say, "It is my life! I'll live it like I want to." You can do that.

But we who know the truth and who love God and love you are called by God and set apart by God to deliver the truth to you, not to be unkind to you, even those of you who have changed God's truth into a lie. Romans Chapter one is so clear that when you take what God... Some people say, "The judgment is coming!"

God says in Romans 1:18 the wrath of God is already revealed from heaven against ungodliness -- all of it -- and unrighteousness of men who suppress, hold down the truth in rebellion in unrighteousness. God says he has revealed himself in what he created. And he said, "Since creation," verse 20, "the creation of the world His invisible attributes and his eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen and revealed through what he created." You can't miss him! The heaven and earth declare the glory of God. You can see him everywhere you look. So you're without excuse.

"But then, even when you know him and see him, you don't honor him as God or give thanks but you became vain and futile in your assumptions and speculations, and your

foolish heart was darkened. You profess to be wise, but you prove to be fools."

You can see the foolishness of these people, highly educated they say, yet they appear to be so foolish in their actions. What is the problem? "They change the glory of the incorruptible God into an image in the form of corruptible man or something God made. They worship something they made. And as a result of it they literally have changed the truth of God into a lie." They exchange truth for a lie. "So they're given over to impurity, to compulsive behavior, to addictive practices until they find themselves in bondage to appetites and practices that are even against nature." We're seeing this happen today. What's the answer? The answer is the transforming power of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Yesterday when we were talking, Betty, I talked to our viewers about all of us as members of the body of Christ. I referenced a book by Dr. Paul Brand who was one of the most gifted medical doctors perhaps ever who gave his life to the lepers. Spent his life, Betty, working with lepers in places you would never even see. What an amazing man!

Full of the love of God. Philip Yancey, a great writer, he wrote, *What's So Amazing about Grace, The Jesus I Never Knew*, many tremendous best-selling books. In this book he talked about the body of Christ. And yesterday, I talked about the D.N.A. that's in every cell, as they teach in this book. And I pointed to the fact that Dr. Brand said you can take the heart of a little chicken, dissect it and take the cells and the chicken's heart is made by God with the D.N.A. to beat 350 times a minute. You take that one little cell from that heart, apart from that lifeless chicken, lay that cell designed by God with a specific D.N.A. and purpose, and that little cell will beat 350 times a minute for hours and sometimes even days. Why? Because the D.N.A. that God put in that little cell for his purpose follows his design.

Then I made this point. Several who heard me said, "James, develop that with a little more clarity."

God put his D.N.A. in the lives of those who are born from above spiritually who received Jesus as the way to the Father, not religion, but a spiritual birth into a relationship with the living God; not a distant creator but an ever present overseeing Father; one who becomes like a shepherd who guards us and protects us, who would kill a lion or a bear that would attack the sheep of his fold, who would go on out with his shepherd's heart to get one little sheep that wasn't safe. This is the D.N.A. God has put in us here at *LIFE Outreach*, and me and Betty as a couple, to want to get you in the safety and security and the watch care of the father and the shepherd, and to let you see that you are the sheep of his pasture, members of his body uniquely designed. You have a D.N.A. that has designed you to get so close to the heart of God that the very nature, will, love, and compassion and passion of God for that which is best is a part of your heartbeat. You actually get in sync with God's heart.

Betty and I have found ourselves, year after year, day after day being moved by God and shaped by God to understand his heart. I want you to understand how much he loves you. He wants you to know how much he loves you. How uniquely designed you are. How precisely and perfectly designed you are. There's no small role. You may say, "But James, all I can do is pray." All you can do is pray? So many times that is the greatest thing any of us can do. Perhaps there is nothing any greater we can do than that until we do that. And then God gives direction. But sometimes with our prayers God moves mountains and he causes great things to happen. So, don't take lightly the call to pray. You're an intercessor, a prayer warrior. Keep praying, God, heal this land! You said if your people would call upon you and pray in humility forsaking our wicked ways, asking you to heal the land, looking for your face, your pleasure, seeking your face you would heal our land.

He is in the process of doing it miraculously! What God has designed me to do is, you've watched Betty, for so many years, he's designed me to speak the truth to large crowds, to a small audience, to a television audience. He's literally designed me, listen to me, to speak to leaders and with leaders in every level of life: Church leaders, spiritual leaders, business leaders, national leaders all over the world. And watch the glory of God.

Betty, you've seen it in China, you've seen it in Angola, communist nation, communist nations, Mozambique, Marxist gunships all around us, watching God move mountains, Rwanda during the revolution. Watching God move when you thought perhaps you were watching me and your son Randy, our son, about to die and you watched God calm the storm, didn't you, miraculously, all over the world. The Soviet Union, right after Chernobyl, all that horrible nuclear aftermath, and yet we were there with the love of God watching people broken in the Soviet Union before God knowing that there is a God, watching God move all over the world.

And now, Betty you have been watching as I have called leaders together to pray; filled this studio with the greatest church leaders in America. You can go on online to the website you see there and look at all the leaders that you respect from the denomination and sectarian groups that you would think would never come together. Supernaturally God brought them together.

Supernatural gatherings to pray beginning nine years ago that God would heal the land, that he would start working miracles and raise up people who would accomplish his kingdom purpose, and we're watching it happen. Not people we would choose, people he knew he could use. People who would get the job done. Remember, he always, and I've said it over and over, he always uses imperfect people to accomplish his perfect will. Imperfect people here, imperfect people supporting what he wants done because we want to do his will. We say, "God, thank you for what you're doing. We're watching miracles!"

And when you see all these church leaders that have come, and they've been seated in this studio with me and Betty, and with Christians that you might have never heard of, who have become a miracle testimony of the grace of God, coming here, all of them fulfilling the fact that they have God's D.N.A. in them, uniquely designed for their whole life to beat in harmony with the will of God.

Right now we're watching God raise up a body of believers, leaders in the church,

national business leaders, blessed entrepreneurial minds, gifted people who are able to do so much to help meet the needs of people, not even some of them realizing it's God that gave them the ability to bless people and maybe they're only thinking about money. And the church must say to them, "God's given you the ability. Don't let greed cause you to misdirect the blessings of God. Realize that every good thing you do to help people, to bless people, to benefit people, to enable people, to enjoy the fruitfulness of all God's creation -- please understand what you do is a gift from God. Now let's give glory to God."

Right now we're finding that leadership in our nation wants to bring the business leaders and the entrepreneurial mind into the poverty areas, into the inner city, the urban community and come in with their ability to say, "Let's show you not the importance of depending upon Pharaoh or a form of Caesar or even Uncle Sam of the federal government, but let's get involved with you to show you how much we love you and what you can do."

Betty, I never could have come out of poverty living on a dark alley or an old dump and having no father and no encouragement. If somebody had told me that somebody owes me something, take care of me. What I did is I looked out from my difficult situation and I saw what freedom offered, an opportunity. Now you've been with me for more than 56 years, do you believe that this guy that didn't have a father with what freedom offered, do you believe that I could have made it and moved forward and been successful because of freedom if I had just set my mind to it and my hand to it? Could you see the ability to do that and what freedom gave me an opportunity to do? Even if I hadn't been called to preach, do you think I could have succeeded?

Betty: Absolutely! Because you didn't grow up thinking that somebody owed you something. All you saw were the possibilities that were out there and the doors that could open up if you did what you were supposed to do. That gives you courage. That gives you stability to know that you're a part of what the future holds.

I think that as Christians, we should understand more than anybody what freedom stands for, what freedom is. Because I know that when I asked Jesus to come into my heart, I experienced real freedom that I had never known in my life because I knew that he took all those things out of me that were distracting me and all those things that I thought were the right things were keeping me from knowing him. But when I asked him to take all of that away from me and fill me with his love and with his spirit and with his power, I thanked him, and I received all that he wanted to give me.

Well, if you've done that, you need to turn that loose in your life. If you've gotten away from that intimacy with God you need to say, "God, search my heart, know me and take those things, root those things out that keep me from desiring to do what you've called me to do." Maybe it's not to stand in a pulpit. Maybe it is not to sit on television. Maybe it's to pray and to seek God and say, "God, give me opportunity to support those that really love you and serve you and care about you and help the needy and reach out to the poor and care about people and about life. Please God, let me do to my fullest capabilities that you've put in me what you've called me to do."

Your place in God's heart and what he wants to do in our world today is as important as anyone else that might be in the pulpit, might be on television, might be somebody that's well-known. You're well known to God and he loves you and he wants to use you. So please allow him to do that in your life.

James: And please know -- and Betty that was such a beautiful expression of God's heart. I do see God's D.N.A. in you every day and I thank the Lord for it. And it's in you, too.

Betty, you know that you've watched your prayers move me. You have watched me go and you've listened to me spend hours oftentimes on the day on the phone talking to leaders, and then you watch me meeting with the most well-known leaders in the country. People would wonder, Betty, do you see that God has enabled James to help these leaders in a way that you can see the positive transforming effect of that interaction? Are you

able to see that?

Betty: Absolutely! God has put a gift in James to be able to talk to those that might not be reachable, you would think, to talk to those that you would think, I couldn't even get close to them in a crowd or anywhere. But God has allowed him because they know that when James talks to them he loves them. He's not judging them. He's not trying to get something from them. He wants to offer them the best and that's God.

James: I told our leaders and I told, because our present leader is, you know is, unbelievable as you might think, how in the world could we in the United States have a leader that lives so obviously for himself so many years? He asks us to pray for him. He even told me after he became president, he said, "James, you told me you'd surround with me prayer and wisdom." He said, "Surround me with it. Don't ever let me forget it."

And as amazing as you might find it to be that this man who lives so much for himself and who is so outspoken, and obviously we would like to temper a lot of the ways that he does but watch how every time he walks out of the White House he stops and talks to the media that just malign him and misrepresent and just attack him non-stop. Why would he even talk to them? If you wonder, can we ever see any humility or any kindness? Well, that's it right there for instance. How does he keep talking to the people that are trying to stone him and hurt him? But he does. He tries to answer him and then they twist his answers. I've gotten to where I won't talk to the media because they don't repeat what I say. They just pigeon hole me and attack me. But he keeps trying to help them.

Here's the thing I want you to know. Because of prayer God is surrounding him with wisdom just like he'd said, "James, surround me with prayer, wisdom, and really pray that. Don't ever let me forget it." He didn't just ask us to pray for him but he's asked many of us as Christian leaders, spiritual leaders to pray with him. And we've done that, and we believe God is answering prayer.

Here's the thing we're watching. We're watching a man that lived so much of his life

pretty well wrapped up in his own world and he had gifts to be successful and I'm sure he did things that all of us know that were not best. He knows that and he doesn't want to live there and talk about that. But what you'll notice is that he really seems to want what's best for all of us. I've asked Christians that are very close to him now all the time, some that I have known basically all of their lives. Many of them grew up or were exposed to our preaching and our ministry and there's a very close relationship here and they love God with all their heart.

I've asked several of them, "Tell me the truth because you're right there. You're right there. You watch. Does this man really want what's best for everyone? And is he really working to try to not only give protection but opportunity for everyone? Does he really want everyone to have a job? And does he really want things to be right and balanced from the benefit of everybody?"

And on two occasions, two of the most spiritually sensitive people I've ever known in my life they answered, "With every fiber in his being." Why? Answered prayer.

I want you to understand this. Betty and I are going to spend the rest of our lives reaching out to the least of these. I want to ask every one of you watching me and hearing what I'm saying to step up and say, "James, when the missionaries that you work with and support find a need for clean water, when they find the hungry, when they find the trafficked that they can set free and help, when they find a need you don't have to wonder is it going to be met because we're going to meet it. We're going to rise up today and tell you here is our support, not only today and at this moment but from now on until Jesus comes or we go to be with him. We're going to take his love and his truth to the ends of the earth. We're going to be the body of Christ and the family of God praying for you, joining with you, understanding that you and Betty have a call."

Betty and I are going to spend our life reaching out to bless you and those you love just as we have together reached out to bless the least of these. I believe that what we will do the rest of our life with your prayers and your support will enable us to perhaps witness

the greatest spiritual awakening in history. I believe we can see freedom's foundation restored on our watch. We do not have to let the gates of hell prevail against the church, the body of Christ and her influence.

I'm asking every one of you if you bear witness to what we're called to do and you'll say, James, you don't have to wonder if you're going to be able to drill water wells, if you're going to be able to feed the hungry. We're going to step up today and we're going to sow, underwrite and undergird what you're called to do that you just focus on speaking to the people God puts in front of you and leads you to here in the United States and all over the world. You take the message, one on one, small groups of leaders; I'm not trying to be the center of anything for the will of God. I'm going to be an instrument, a vessel through which he flows your love. I'm asking us to join together as a supernatural body and I'm asking you to undergird, encourage and pray for the work God's called us to and enable us to do it.

I want to send you two books. I've offered them before. Some of you have *The Stream*. Listen. These are messages I wrote dealing with every issue we face nationally. They are real short biblical messages teaching us how we address all the issues of our concern. Real simple reading, just biblical truth on how we pray for and deal with the challenges we face.

Living Amazed is a story of a fatherless kid, the product of a mother being raped by a man as a hospice nurse when she was 40. A doctor refused to abort me. The miracle life of *Living Amazed*. If you see how God took a shy young man and because of simply yielding to him the miracles and witnessing. I'll tell you what it will do. If you'll read it, you'll see that God can use anybody in any situation to see a miracle occur for his kingdom purpose and glory.

I want to send these two books to you for any gift you make to say, "James, we're going to undergird the outreaches of *LIFE*, whether it is water or feeding or setting trafficked people free, whatever it is, we're with you. We're going to step up and more than ever and

stand with you because we want you to be free to do what God's calling you to do right now to speak truth to leaders and to see, yes, this nation impacted by the power of the gospel and see us changed and restore freedom's foundation so that we can once again bless God and bless others that he loves and gave his son to redeem. We want to send you, James, on the mission God's called you to and we want to undergird it. Do what he told you to do. We're praying with you. We're praying for you. Don't waver. Do what God's leading you to do. We're praying for you and Betty and we're standing with you.

Go online, call the number, make the gift. Let us know that you're praying for us, that you're standing with us and we're asking him to accomplish his will through us on earth right here right now for his glory.

Begin video clip

Announcer: Now more than ever, James and Betty need your help to fulfill the vision God has placed on their hearts to help restore the foundation and future of freedom for you, your family, and to a world in desperation.

Please prayerfully consider how you can stand with them now to help support the outreaches of *LIFE* providing food for the hungry, water for the thirsty, rescuing those who are enslaved and providing shoes and necessities for the least of these.

With your gift of any amount we will send you two incredible books by James Robison, *Living Amazed*: How divine encounters can change your life is filled with captivating stories to inspire you to live amazed in the power of God 24 hours a day. We'll also send you *The Stream*, a powerful book that provides a biblical look at the national challenges we face and the great need for a spiritual awakening.

Please call, write, or go on online and make your best gift to stand with James and Betty today!

End of video

In the studio:

James: Now let me just mention we are in our Water for LIFE emphasis at this particular time so we sure could use a tremendous outpouring of help and love. Thank you so much for giving more than a cup of water. You're actually helping give many wells of water. Thank you for doing it.

Betty: Please help us do what God's put on our heart to do. You can be a part of what God wants to do. Ask God what he would have you to do to help fulfill his purposes for what he's called us to do and you'll be a big part of that. Thank you so much.

James: We really do love you. You've watched us reach out to help so many others but Betty and I are going on to spend the next months and years reaching out to the least of these, but also to you, and to help you and those you love because we love you deeply.

I really do want you to know I'm sending you the book *Living Amazed*. And then *The Stream* where I take biblical application to every issue we face today so we know the importance of prayer and focusing on God changing all these areas of our concern. So I do want you to have it.

Thank you for your prayers and your support. It is so vitally important. We love you! Thank you for your love, your prayers and your help.