

7/25/19

Week 30: Summer WFL

James and Betty Robison

David Barton and Robert Jeffress

James: Well, okay. I'm leaning in and I'm excited. Betty is back. She was sick, if you knew several times she wasn't here. Thank you for your prayers.

I'm excited because we've got two guests here. They're heroes, they're champions to me in the faith. They are shepherds. They have prophetic insight. They have wisdom. They have fire in their bones.

One of them said a while ago, "We've got to show people the real Jesus now to face what we're facing. It is not a Jesus running around eating birdseed, and a wimpy, little squishy Jesus." And that was Dr. Robert Jeffress who said that. And with him is David Barton; who is Dr. David Barton too.

So we're just really glad. Would you give them a great welcome? David Barton and Dr. Robert Jeffress!

David: Thank you!

James: I've got a wall builder over here and I've got a pastor of First Baptist Church who preached on building a wall. Nehemiah thought... walls have a purpose, by the way. You've got WallBuilders. Do walls have a really meaningful, biblical purpose?

Dr. Jeffress: Absolutely. You hear Nancy Pelosi and others saying that walls are unchristian,

they're immoral. Well, if that's true then God's immoral because he told Nehemiah to build a wall around Jerusalem. There is going to be a wall in heaven, Revelation 21 says.

So I got to preach the inauguration sermon for President Trump and I preached on Nehemiah, when God selects a leader. And I stopped and said, "You see, Mr. President, God's not against walls." Walls have a purpose.

James: You've said a lot of things people wouldn't have expected you to have said. I was there that same morning and I had the president standing in front of me and I preached directly to him and the whole family and the whole cabinet. So listen, these people hear the truth. Now whether they do the truth or not what about you? Are you going to do the truth when you hear it? That's the real question.

I want to ask both of you men, if you talk to the people who say we are the church, the body of Christ, Christians. We believe God is our Father. He is the creator. He's our Father, we have a relationship. What do we Christians need to hear concerning our future, the future of freedom, the future of people we care about? Do we have any responsibility and can we do anything about the trends where the gates of hell seem to be pushing in on us? Answer the question.

David: I'm going to take it to an individual level. If you look at America, we've had our constitution now 232 years this year. The average length of a constitution in the history of the world is 17 years.

James: How many?

David: Seventeen. Average length for a constitution is 17 years. We have stability to a point we just take it for granted. I've got news for you, I've talked to people in Poland, alive in Poland who have lived through seven constitutions in their lifetime. If you're a baby boomer in South Korea, you've lived through six constitutions. South Korea we consider to be a stable nation. So we're very blessed. That has been because we built upon a religious and a moral foundation. George Washington said if everything that causes our politics to prosper, religion/morality,

indispensable supports.

So here's the two things I think are really key for where we are now. If you look at America from a faith standpoint, in 2006, 45% of the nation professed to be born again; 12 years later, in 2018, it was down to 31%. In 12 years we dropped 14%. We are plummeting for born-again Christians. For the first time ever the number of evangelicals in America has been passed by the number of atheists, agnostics and nones. So there are more non-religious people in America, first time, than there are evangelicals. The trends are going the wrong direction.

Here's what I would point to with that. If you look at Christianity in the world, on the world scene, we have been trying to evangelize people for 2,000 years and we are now at 32% of the world's population. We're the largest religion in the world. Islam comes in at 21%. Then you get Buddhism at 14%. Hindus at 7%. We have got all these professionals that are so good; we've got the missionaries, we've got pastors and we've got evangelists and we're at 32%.

James: You're saying that is a percentage that -- but now whether those people really have a relationship, a spiritual relationship would actually be questionable too though.

David: But I'm just going to play with the numbers for a minute and say, okay, let's say 32% is right and 2,000 years we're up to 32%. What if every Christian in the world made it their goal in this one year, my only goal is to lead one other person to Christ? At the end of one year we're at 64%, at the end of two years the entire world is Christian. What if individuals decided to do something rather than waiting for the professionals to do something?

Because that's our problem is we keep wanting the professional politicians, the professional Christians, "We pay Pastor Jeffress this way. I'll bring my unsaved people to church and let him preach." No! How about you lead them to Christ individually? So if we took individual ownership we could turn this nation around on a spiritual standpoint in a heartbeat. It would be fast.

Now let me go to the political side. You go back to the American Revolution, the first four

battles in the American Revolution was the Battle of Lexington, the Battle of North Bridge at Concord, the Battle on the road to Boston, and the Battle of Bunker Hill. In all four of those first battles that started this whole thing for independence for us, nobody contacted the national commander in chief and said hey, we've got the enemy coming what are you going to do about it? What happened was in Lexington the Reverend Jonas Clark said, "I've got it. I've got 70 guys from my church, I'll go face the 800 British." When it went from Lexington to Concord, the Reverend William Emerson said, "I've got this. It's my community." 300 guys met the 800 British. When it went on the road to Boston, it was the Reverend Payson Phillips, Reverend Benjamin Ball said, "Our church has got this. We'll take care of the British." When it got to Bunker Hill, Reverend Joseph Willard said, "I've got it!" It was the church that kept...

See, the reason we won the national battle was we won all the local battles. We didn't have any national strategy. We said we're going to take our local community. When you defend Lexington and Concord and the road to Boston and Bunker Hill and you defend then you start winning national battles.

So we're so fixated right now on the next presidential election, how about let's take the school boards where we live? How about let's get city councils? How about let's get state representative. If we would just take care of our community, if churches would do that, if Christians would do that, we'd have the whole nation. And we keep looking from the top down, it's from the bottom up and that's in our faith and that's in our politics.

James: You all know most people know years ago God did a pretty dramatic change in the life of this very highly visible evangelist. And one of the things God showed me was yes, you're a spokesman but you're going to become a servant above all because that's most effective in the kingdom. So helping you two means more to me than trying to go out and even get help. I try to help missionaries because I love people. That's it. Okay. I'm a servant spokesman but I'm a servant.

But something else happened to me. God showed me how he's going to actually move things in a positive direction. He said the day of the somebodies is over. It's going to be the day of the body.

The body of believers, built up into the fullness of my stature. It takes all of us together showing people what Jesus is like, and that takes the one-on-one effect. It's basically what both of you teach in these two books. This one where he talks about Solomon's wisdom. Everything you write, you talk about the rubber hitting the road. You talk about us doing what he left us here to do. What you all did, you broke this thing down in all the major areas of concern.

So if we the Christians, if we go out and be what Jesus said we're to be and he's in us, then we can see everything around us change and there could be hope for the nation; right?

Dr. Jeffress: I want to take a little bit different tack here. In the end I believe the same as you do. I think we may have a different way to get there though. I am preaching through the book of Revelation verse by verse. The title of the series is "Final Conquest." In the end we're going to win because Jesus is going to win and we're on the winning side. But I think if you look at the Bible, there's going to be a final downward leg before he returns. So there's going to be a seven-year period when there is a one world dictator. America will cease to exist as we know it during that time because of a ten nation confederation. So what are we supposed to do in light of that? Well, we're not to give up. We're to keep on fighting. Look! I know that I'm going to die unless the rapture comes.

James: I don't see you giving up, guy. You're upfront all the time.

Dr. Jeffress: I'm not! But listen. I know I'm going to die, this body is going to wear out one time but I still exercise every day, I still eat right, as best I can, I still go to the doctor; not because I'm afraid of dying but I want to prolong my life here on earth so that I have more time to be a witness for Christ. The reason we're to push back against evil, James is the church of Jesus Christ is we want to prolong the time we have here on earth to share the gospel.

James: See I believe that.

Dr. Jeffress: Second Thessalonians talks about the restrainer of evil who is keeping the man of lawlessness, the Antichrist from taking over. Who is that restrainer of evil? Well, it is the Holy

Spirit -- but it is the Holy Spirit in Christians. It is Christians who are out there being active who are like standing against a dam that's about to burst. We're to stand against the dam of evil that's about to burst on the world so that we can have longer to share the gospel.

We pray this prayer, so many Christians pray it, "The Lord's Prayer" and part of that prayer is: "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is being done on heaven." We're praying for God's will to be done now! Not sometime in the future but now! And so I ask people watching this program, do you think it is God's will for 1.4 million children to be murdered in the womb every year through abortion? Is that God's will? Is it God's will for immorality to run rampant like sewage in our streets in this country and around the world? Is that God's will? No! Is it God's will to see crosses torn down from war memorials? Is it God's will for our country to outlaw the name of Jesus being mentioned in the schools? Is it God's will for Christians to be persecuted and martyred and have their heads chopped off around the world? No! It's not God's will! And it's time for God's people to get up off their blessed assurances, if you know what I mean and get to work in the name of righteousness.

James: That is precisely -- it's exactly what you were saying a while ago. If we stand against the force -- we don't have to give the enemy, the deceiver our marriage. We don't have to give him our family. We don't have to give him our community. I don't think we have to give them our schools. You touched that a while ago. We have basically handed off the education of our kids, the entertainment of our kids, all the things that have happened because we opted out of pushing back against the influence of the deceiver. We failed to be witnesses.

David: Let me throw out a really simple example. It was actually out of Fort Worth, Texas that the policy came that said, "Oh, wait a minute! Our school districts, we want all the kids having one bathroom and one locker room." And it came out of Fort Worth. Fort Worth! Are you kidding me? Out of Texas? No way!

And then at that time President Obama picked that up and said, "That's a good idea." So the Department of Education came out and said if you get federal funds at all, and virtually 99.9 percent of all schools get federal funds, you will have one bathroom and one locker room.

We're not doing this gender stuff -- all the kids.

So across America common sense people said, "No! We're not doing that." So up in northwest Arkansas in a town of 40,000 people a Christian lady up there said, "You're not doing that in our schools. I'm running for school board." She ran for school board in a town of 40,000. She got elected. And she got elected, "We're not doing this in my school." The entire number of votes cast in the election were 35 votes, in a town of 40,000 people -- 35 votes. She gets in there and makes it.

Now there's a pig farmer in Iowa said, "You're not doing that in my school!" So he puts his name on the ballot. Turns out he got too busy that day; didn't end up voting for himself. And it's not that he lost by one vote, nobody voted in the entire election at all. Had he voted for himself he would be the entire school board all by himself.

See we keep waiting for somebody to come in and save us from all this. My gosh! We've got it in our powers. Stand up and do something. This is not as insurmountable as we think it is.

Dr. Jeffress: The question I get asked all the time, and I'm sure you guys do too, but I get asked as a pastor, "Pastor, why do you get involved in politics? I mean that's a dirty word! Christians, pastors involved in politics."

Look, the word politics comes from a Latin word that means "to influence." When you say that Christians shouldn't get involved in politics you're saying Christians shouldn't try to influence the world in which they live. Can anybody say that and believe it with a straight face?

In the Old Testament it was the king who determined the spiritual direction of a nation. If it was a righteous king, God blessed the nation. If it was an unrighteous king God cursed the nation. But the Israelites didn't get to vote for king. That was imposed upon them. But we get the choice, the blessing John Jay said of choosing our leaders. John Jay said, "God has given us the privilege of choosing our leaders." That means every time we go to the voting booth we're either casting a vote for righteousness or for unrighteousness. And when we stay at home we're saying we don't

give a you-know-what to what happens to this nation. That's why every Christian must get involved in politics. I'm not talking about partisan politics, I'm talking about scriptural issues that the Bible has spoken about.

And look, God is no respecter of people or nations. God doesn't get goose bumps when he hears "The Star Spangled Banner." He doesn't stand up and wave when the American flag passes by. He doesn't care about that. God says, "I will bless any nation that reverences me and I will judge any nation, including the United States of America, that rejects me."

James: Do y'all degree with what you're hearing? I do. And we're not actually -- Christians are not looking for a king, we have a king, his name is Jesus. He's King of kings and Lord of lords. He holds kings in his hand. If we ask God to give us leaders that can accomplish the job, you're looking for a leader that may not come out of the choir, he may not come out of a Sunday school class.

Churchill drank very heavily and yet he was positive. Patton was a great general that helped win the war against a horrible evil. He believed some things that were not right but did he accomplish a task? Yes, he did. People need to realize we ask God to do something, he said he would do it, sometimes he uses instruments that would not have been the one of our choosing. A lot of the ones we choose don't seem to lead us anywhere. We just keep going down. They don't take a stand like you do.

If every pastor, and David, you've studied history, you know if every pastor would stand up like this one is, be willing to risk it, be more concerned about what's right than how he looks, whether he is doing right, if they would stand up like this, don't you think we would see a miraculous healing in the land and a great move of God's spirit?

David: We would see that not only if pastors did that but if Christians would do that. I think one of the things I see missing from the church today is any concept of a fear of God, and accountability. For example, I learned from the founding fathers in reading their writings that they believed one day we would stand before God and he is going to say, "I gave you your life,

what did you do with that?" And we'll have to answer. "Here's what I did. And Lord, I gave my heart to you and you said he that winneth souls is wise, and I did that."

"Good! Well done good and faithful servant. I gave you your family. What did you do with that?"

"Lord, just what you said. I raised my children in the nourishment and admonition of the Lord. I loved my spouse."

"Great! Well done good and faithful servant. I gave you your possessions. What did you do with that?" And we'd account for it. Account as we know and Jesus tells in Matthew 12, every idle word we'll account for. We know First Corinthians 4, all of our thoughts we account for. We know from Hebrews 4, all of our actions we account for.

And then he says, "By the way, I gave you a vote. What did you do with that?"

"Oh, I decided not to do anything with that, Lord."

That's the guy who got in trouble because I believe we will account to God not only for what we do but for the opportunities we have where we do nothing. And if we've been given a stewardship over this nation, "I gave you a nation, I told you to take care of it until I came back. What did you do with it?" "Oh man, I don't get involved in politics." That's not going to fly with him because it is a nation that he gave to his people to be stewards over, and we can't decide we're not going to be involved just because we call it politics. You're exactly right. He doesn't do politics, he does Bible. And if happens to apply to stuff that's going on, don't call it politics, call it Bible. Why do we let the government define what is politics when the Bible should be the definition we use?

James: I agree with y'all. You all are my heroes in so many ways. I know yours too, and all of you. By the way, all of you who watch our program, and like right now we're going to show you some people who are thirsty, you said, "Oh well, I've heard this." That's not what you do. Thank

you. Because Jesus said this, "When you see the least of these" -- by the way, when he separated the sheep from the goats, and the ones who are really going to be with the Lord in his presence because his presence is in them and they see, and they notice, and they do it, Jesus said, "You're doing it to me."

When I was a teenager and I heard about Jesus saying, "I thirst" and they gave him vinegar and gall, I'm just a kid that's just been exposed to Jesus for the first time and I said, "I would have given you water. I would have given you water." And together, with our viewers we've been able to give millions of people water and lead them to Christ by the millions.

Would you right now watch and see the need that your love, God's love through you can meet? Please do it. Watch closely and prayerfully.

On the mission field:

Announcer: The far corners of the world frame a beautiful picture of God's creation and the unique people created in his own image. And as you visit different countries you're sure to see many different cultures and customs.

But even in the midst of this diversity there is one commonality shared by all: The need for water. We need water to grow our food. We need water to care for our animals. And we ourselves need to drink water to survive. But unfortunately, many people around the world don't have access to clean water. The only water they have available is contaminated and it's the children that have suffered the most from waterborne diseases.

Open captions:

>> My daughter died from an infection and diarrhea. Our water is contaminated but it's the only source around here.

Open captions:

>> Everyone who lives in this village has gotten sick from the water. We have never had an

option for clean drinking water.

Announcer: Just as the problem of contaminated water is the same around the world so is the solution. You can help drill new water wells in many different countries and provide clean water to hundreds of thousands of people.

Clean water changes everything. Clean water saves lives.

End of video

In the studio:

James: Betty, you've had a terrible bronchial virus as you've coughed. And you've seen the need, and not knowing whether you could even talk you said, "Honey, you tell them." What do you want our viewers to see? When you see all the tremendous need but you and I have not only seen the need, we've seen the joy that love brings.

Betty: That's my favorite part! Is to see the little ones go to the fountain of life, truly, and get fresh clean water. And to see them, as the water is coming up, to see them dancing around. That is great joy! Because without it, they're going to die. And their mothers' hearts have to be broken because they have to give them water. They don't have a choice of clean or dirty water. They watch their children slowly die because they can't have fresh water.

Please join with us and let's see the joy on the faces of those children again.

James: I want to thank you for your sweet heart and the way you have loved me, which people probably say has got to be a challenge from time to time for sure. But the way you've loved our family. And everybody is saying then when you went to the mission fields of the world; when we say we marched into hell for a heavenly cause you don't know the half of it. As a matter of fact, we never even told you the half of it because we didn't want to put the missionaries in jeopardy or you think, well, it's probably too dangerous to even keep them there. But you went. And then when you see the need and you know what love does, I know what your heart says. I know how

much you love our country, I know how much you love others, and I know how much you love freedom.

Listen to me. We can only share openly like we do because somebody showed us they care. It's like the missionaries said, "James, we're here with a broken heart. We'll have empty hands and nothing happens unless people who watch programs like yours will decide to meet the need that we see."

You've been that miracle. Now then for more than 25, nearly 30 years you've been the miracle in mission outreaches. Right now we need a miracle support. We need every single one of you who can to help us complete 400 wells this year; 200 wells we need to complete right now.

Father, I pray everyone who can help will. Please!

If you could give a well -- a lot people say, "It is the greatest joy of our year. We asked God to let us do it."

Some say, "Now we do it every year." Thank God for that!

Could you drill a well, \$4800? Could you give half a well, \$2400 and say, "Lord, raise up someone to join me." We've got another well. \$1200 and three people join you. Whatever you can do, do it.

But remember this. Most of the support comes from people who give \$48; 10 people basically water the rest of their life. Where can you put \$48 and do anymore? \$144, 30 people. What a miracle. You become the miracle. By the way, don't think ten is not important. That \$48 is important. Whatever you can do do it.

Would you go get your bankcard right now? Please? Dial that number that's a prayer line always for you if you need a prayer and it's paid for by love. Would you go get your card, dial that number or go online and just make the best gift you can? If you want to write a check,

make it to *LIFE* but call us and tell us you're putting it in the mail. We've got to know it's coming. Please do it right now. We have some gifts to send you but you're giving the gift of life. Thank you for doing it.

Begin video clip

Announcer: Today, a mother living in extreme poverty will do the unthinkable, give her children dirty, diseased-filled water that she knows could kill them. With no other choice what else can she do?

With your help, clean water is on the way. Mission: Water for LIFE provides a way for parents to save the lives of their children to offer them a bright future free from the fear of death.

With your gift today, you can help drill and establish 400 water wells this year. Your gift of \$24 will help provide clean water for five children. A gift of \$48 will help provide for ten. \$72 will provided for 15. And \$144 will help provide life-giving water for 30 people for a lifetime!

With your gift, we'll send you the "New Mercies Each Day" desk calendar. This 17-month calendar will not only help you keep track of important dates but also remind you of the Father's love and goodness with scripture quotes and encouragement from all the hosts on *LIFE Today*.

With your gift of \$100 or more, request the "Fruit of the Spirit" bowl. This beautiful and decorative ceramic bowl features scripture revealing the "Fruit of the Spirit," a lovely addition to your table or home.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1200 to help provided water for 250 people or a gift of \$4800 to help sponsor a complete well. And you may request our "Safe in the Shepherd's Arms" bronze sculpture.

Please call, write, or make your gift online.

End of video

In the studio:

James: Well, I just want to say from the bottom of my heart, thanks for your help. I want to thank you for watching a program where two very courageous people joined another very courageous person, and maybe I'm feeling there a little bit but we really love you. And what we've shared today is because God wants you to know the truth, stand for the truth, share the truth, declare the truth, demonstrate the truth -- and therein lies our hope. And not look to a somebody but the king, his kingdom in us, not of this world and we reveal him to a world in darkness. That's the light that illuminates the way. That's what we're to be as a family of believers, the family of a perfect Father.

If you appreciate these men would you express your thanks?

Dr. Jeffress: Thank you for having us.

David: Yes. Thanks. Thank you, brother.

James: Thank you.

Their books, you will like them. You can get them on line, and you pass them on. Get others to get them.

Thanks for watching *LIFE Today*. Thanks for sharing life.