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Week 11: WFL last week

James and Betty Robison

"Truth Stands the Test of Time"

JAMES: We welcome you to *LIFE Today*. I'm James Robison. Betty and I are thrilled to be here with you. Betty, I've been, even though I'm sitting here at the table I've been just kind of preaching, maybe preaching a little more directly. Some of you say, "Boy, I like it. Do it all the time!" You know that the fire in my bones, I communicate all the time with compassion and courage, but you know that I really believe with all my heart the church is the only hope freedom has, and peace has, the family has. The future can only be secure by the influence and impact of the church.

How do you feel about what I'm doing? You live with me all the time. You listen to me talk one on one. Many may say, does he consistently tell everybody he's around, you've been around him with presidents, leaders, business heads, church leaders, is James always...

BETTY: This is you. This is what God has put in you. When it is just one on one or if it is several people or it's a crowd, you still preach with God's love and in truth or you share one on one with someone God's love. I think if people could come to realize and know how much God loves you, and when you get that in your heart and know that when you're desperate, when you're hurting, he is there to put his arms around you, and to hold you close, and to walk you through anything that you're going through.

We've been through a lot the last year, James with the virus and the dissension and the hate. I think it is time that people, I believe they're hungry to say what is the truth? Well, it is God's word and his love. And he wants to show you his truth in love.

JAMES: Well, if deception prevails and the father of lies is the devil, there are two fathers. There are two major forces and powers in the invisible realm which impacts and basically controls the visible realm.

There is the father of lies. He's the one that brings division and dissension. He is the one that brings death and destruction. Jesus said, "You're a murderer." He told the most religious people that he ever talked to head on that they were of their father the devil, not Abraham. And these were folks who were quoting Bible. But they were denying the Bible with their life. They tied it on their head on a string, and on their wrists but their hands and their mind did not confirm that belief. They were going through the motions.

Listen to me. The Jesus that came, the promised Messiah they hated because it wasn't the way they saw the Messiah coming like a mighty ruler to make them mighty rulers rather than people overflowing with love and compassion and courage and boldness to stand not against people but against the deceiver, the murderer, his deception, the death to everything meaningful he brings, they stand against that force. They may have to fight, they may have to beat their plowshares into swords. There may come that time that they build with a trowel in one hand and the sword in another to do what God wants to defend the innocent. That may be but that's not the real sword that changes everything. The sword that changes everything is the Word of God--the sword of the Lord. The people that carry that sword are carried by that sword. But they take on the powers of the deceiver.

Betty, deception is prevailing in our schools. It prevails in every area of entertainment. Now listen to me. I'm not exaggerating. Deception prevails in mass media. The prince of the power of the air is taking over and wants to take over totally the airwaves. And the main message he wants to stop is the message of the King of kings, a king other than Caesar, a king other than any other source. The Messiah, the king that changes everything to the benefit of everyone he blesses. How can people be so mentally deranged, demented, defeated, deceived that they would resist the love of one named Jesus and the father that gave him to give us life--life now and forever! But will deliver us from the

power of deception. The deceiver will be here, but we don't have to let him prevail. We don't have to let him influence us to change God's word into a lie and be defeated by deception.

I'm telling you right now the enemy is raging as never before against truth! It's not political partisan views being promoted, it is outright deception that's being promoted; and it's hatred! And it's masqueraded as though it is care for you. It's going to put you in prison.

Do you know what freedom does? I've said this over and over. Don't miss it! Freedom gives you the right to live with your fist clinched in the face of a holy God. You are not forced to follow God. You are not a puppet. You are not God's robot. You are a living being in creation with freedom to choose what you love, who you love. You don't have to love God. You can clinch your fist in his face. You can say, "It is my life. I'll live it like I want to. I'll do what I know is right." He loves you that much to let you live that way.

But he loves you too much not to tell you the consequences of living that way. If you live against light you grope in darkness. If you live against truth, you're guided by lies. If you refuse love, hate and bitterness, unforgiveness will prevail.

Betty, I had everyone looking at Acts four. You go back and just look at the boldness of these people who worked a miracle. Somebody that's been crippled all his life, the whole city knew it. He is healed instantly, a notable miracle. And they threatened these disciples that said, "We don't have silver or gold but such as we have, we give you in the name of Jesus: life, health, a miracle. We give you a miracle." And they hated them for it. And the ones that worked the miracle said, "You crucified the Messiah, the King of kings. You hung him on a cross. But he's alive and he's the only way to heaven. There is no other name." And they threatened them and said, "Don't do this anymore. Don't speak anymore!"

They were going to put them in jail, but they could see that there would be a big uprising.

They think it wouldn't be like Philippi where God tore down the doors and the prison walls and let Paul and Silas walk out. These people might tear down the prison because they've seen a notable miracle. But they said, "We command you not to speak anymore in his name." They said, "We can't help but speak it. There is not enough power on this earth to stop us from talking about the power that's in us, that's controlling us."

Jeremiah said, "His word is in me like a fire in my bones. I can't hold it in."

Well, open your Bible. I want you to start having a Bible close when we come on. I know you'll need it with Sheila. You know that. Thank God for the way she teaches. She talks to a lot of wonderful people too, just like we do. I want you to know that Betty and I find great joy in pointing at the greatness of Jesus in others. We want you to love us. We need your love. But you don't follow us. You follow the Jesus we point to. You don't follow any teacher, however much you appreciate him, you don't follow them.

They're pointing you to the one teacher, to the Lord of lords and the King of kings. You don't be distracted by the greatness of that teacher. We've got enough of these little things starting like little clubs and pockets of denominational... We're still splitting theological hairs to our own demise. Stop it! Quit arguing about the things that haven't been settled in 100 years, 500 years, 1,000 years, 2,000--quit arguing about it! We see through a glass darkly. We don't see as clearly as we like to think we do. So quit hating each other. There is so much that's so irrefutably, undeniably true. God said, "You can see it in everything I created."

All right now look at this. This is so amazing. Betty, here are these people that have been threatened. And they just go right on. But listen to what they said when they're talking about the God that made the heavens.

Look at verse 25, Acts four: *Who by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of our father David your servant said...*

Listen to this! Because this is what's happening right now. It is intensifying.

Why did the Gentiles rage, the unbelievers, those that don't know the father, don't know God? They might even have religion, but they don't know God. *Why did the Gentiles rage and the people devise futile things and the kings of the earth--the powers, political power, king power, monarchies, emperors--the kings of the earth took their stand, and the rulers were gathered together...*

Gathered together against what? Democrats, Republicans, liberals, conservatives, Pentecostals, Baptists, Catholics? They were gathered together against the Lord and his Christ.

That's what all deceivers are warring against. I don't care how sophisticated you are, I don't care how much you talk about how I'm a Catholic, a protestant, I'm an evangelical. You make God sick! You make him sick! I throw you up--regurgitate! The enemy hates the truth.

For truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel.

Everybody! That the deceiver has got the powers that be, the religious leaders.

You were gathered together against the Christ. Now Lord, take note of their threats against us and grant that thy bondservants...

Kingdom servants--sold out to you. We lost our life in your kingdom purpose to find it in all of its fullness. Jesus who died you now live in us; another of the same kind. This living Jesus, King of kings, Lord of lords, all power, living in this body. And we together are the temple that you're building into the fullness of the stature of Christ. We're that house being fitted together to reveal you in all of your glory because there is a kingdom prepared for us. But we're here to make your kingdom impact right now on planet earth.

We're not here to get out of here. We're here to get you in here in the fullness of your power. That's what these people were about. Now watch what they did because this is what we have to do.

Now Lord, take note of their threats against us...

Against God's will, against transforming truth, against real freedom and liberty, against responsibility and accountability, against opportunity, against the opportunity to not see the sky as the limit but God as the limit. No man can limit the potential of lives and clay in the master potter's hand, vessels of honor, commitment, success, transforming effect and blessings on the just and the unjust as you pour out the blessings of truth and the effect of your principles in place like the solid foundation. Not like sand! The solid rock of truth upon which we build, and they withstand the force of any storm, any force, the deceiver, the divider, the murderer can throw at us. It stands. My tabernacle, my temple, build not with stone but with precious beautiful lives, and living stones.

So take note of their threats, and grant your bondservants, kingdom servants may speak thy word with confidence.

Do you think I speak with confidence?

BETTY: Absolutely.

JAMES: You speak with confidence. A lot of people say, we probably rather hear her, look how sweet she is. You like this?

BETTY: I love it!

JAMES: Is this what you pray for a lot?

BETTY: I do.

JAMES: Do you think a lot of people pray for this? To flow out of every truth teller on the planet. Let the truth flow out of you, fearlessly, faithfully, full of love and compassion, and conviction.

Okay. *"We want to speak your word with confidence while you extend your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of your holy servant Jesus."*

And Betty, we've seen it. Not a single miracle. You would have your breath taken if you knew the miracles we've watched this week. They are as equal to anything in this book. Anything! I think even beyond sometimes. He is the same! We just need to release that power. And boy, you let the family of God come together in supernatural unity and we're going to release a force on planet earth that's only been glimpsed; that can be manifested continually through the yielded body of Christ. Not sniping each other, amputating one another, but coming together in the fullness of his power and glory to shake hell and to shake the gates of hell right off their hinges and set captives free.

Okay, here's what they did, Betty. This is what we do. *And when they had prayed, verse 31. Just circle it, highlight it, memorize it. When they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit.*

And buddy, that means filled to overflowing with the spirit. It's just an overflow of the living Jesus flowing out of us. *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and they began to speak the Word of God with boldness.*

And they did it as long as they were breathing. And the true committed to Christ's church is still doing it. I have now been doing it 60 years, publicly, from the time God called me. I was already a witness but boy, what a witness I became when I released the message for 60 years, Betty, all over the world to the highest powers, to the lowest of the low, the wealthiest of the wealthy, the poorest of the poor. The same Jesus preached with confidence, and with boldness.

And then if you look at the last verses, just meditate on these. Great way to close when we're talking about getting water for people who don't have water. They said, "We don't own anything." Why? Because God owns it all, starting with us, and all we oversee, it's God's. We're just the overseer of what God has entrusted to our watch care, including all of our money. And there was no need that could be met they didn't meet.

That is exactly what can happen today if the message of truth in the church would flow freely to the leaders in Washington. We can show them that you can meet needs without making people dependent and making them unaccountable, irresponsible, still living the way they want to live, nobody overseeing them. You don't throw money at problems. You address a problem with the same compassion and love they addressed that cripple with at the gate that couldn't walk. All the poor Jesus addressed with love. That's how he does it today. And when you show people the truth, you teach them accountability and responsibility. And you give visual oversight. You don't leave it up to Pharaoh or Uncle Sam or some legislator or some bureaucrat to oversee. They don't oversee. Love--without a love connection you're wasting money; you might as well throw it in the air. Without oversight, accountability, and responsibility you are sowing destruction.

Father, deliver us from the paths of destruction. Deliver us from the deceiver's grip and set the church free to proclaim your truth in the power of your Holy Spirit, in love, fearlessly, boldly.

That prayer is for you who know him. You don't know him? You call that number there that's a prayer line. You can call 24 hours a day. Say, "I want to know this living Jesus. I want to lose my life to find it in kingdom purpose." You call, someone will pray with you.

And then remember this. Just like those last verses in that fourth chapter of Acts, you start giving. That was no way socialism--not a second of it! It was we have so much love we're going to meet needs and we're going to give oversight. And you can read the next chapter and see what kind of oversight God gives to what he's told you to trust to him and

don't lie! Don't be deceptive.

Betty, we're in our last week, Water for LIFE. This emphasis on 350 wells. You know we need a miracle response, so we just ask you please, do what God leads you to do.

On the mission field:

RALPH: Imagine living in a village where people are dying on a regular basis all because of the water.

Is this a water source for the village?

>> Yes. That's the water source for the village.

RALPH: And they drink that?

>> Yeah, they do!

RALPH: What do you see in this cup? What we don't see is what should really alarm us. All types of germs and diseases are in this one little cup of water. We've heard countless stories already of how many people have lost children from drinking this water.

Open Captions:

>> Unclean water is killing the people of our village.

>> The children say they are concerned about the dirty water, but they have no choice.

>> Families are dying because of this unclean water. People are disappearing. Many homes are closing.

>> Every day, we bury kids who have died because of this water. The first was my ten-year old boy. Then I lost my daughter, Francine. She was just six years old.

RALPH: They have no other choice. They have no choice then to drink this germ-infested water. We have a choice, and we can drill a well in this very village. We can drill down and bring clean beautiful water that will bring life to this village. We can stop the deaths. We can stop the burials. We can stop the tears and bring beautiful clean water to this village who desperately need a touch of God's love.

In the studio:

JAMES: Well, we want to thank you for letting me share not just my heart but God's heart. Do you feel like you heard God's heart, honey?

BETTY: Absolutely! I believe you did too.

JAMES: I want to ask you to make the best gift you can. This is the last week. Tomorrow is the last day.

Father, we need a miracle. Somebody that had never thought they could give a well and right now they're hearing you tell them they can. I think they're going to do it joyfully. Make us like those Christians at the end of Acts chapter four. Let us live with that spirit, in Jesus' name.

Let me just say I love you deep. I want to look into your eyes like I'm sitting right there across from you. We really do love you. I wish we could know you. We're looking forward to the time that we can be with people in this studio again. We've tried to honor the wisdom that's being offered and trying to be careful and wise but we're not fearful. But I want to tell you something, I love you more than I can ever express adequately. And you have helped us love people with the

love of God where they could see it. Thank you so much for your help. Thank you for your prayers. Thank you for your love. God bless y'all. Let's keep sharing life.