

Week 18

4/26/11

James: I'm so excited we can share this time together. I really do thank you for watching the program. You know *LIFE Today* has been a blessing to people all over the world because it is so much more than simply a name or a title, it really is learning how to experience life today every day. One of the things we point out, I think it is really important for you to understand, you will really live life the way you want to live it when you begin to share the life of God with others. If you want to experience the fullness of love, release that love toward someone. I want to encourage you to get what Beth Moore has joined with me and Betty in sharing, and that is the reality of God's Kingdom in You, the subtitle, "Living in His Presence in the Present." See, people have erroneously reduced the Kingdom of God to a future reward rather than a present reality. Of course there is the future heaven where there are no more challenges; where there is no enemy, no disease, no death, no sorrow, those things, the former are gone. But Jesus prayed for the will of God to be done on earth as in heaven, and he sent us as sheep not to the slaughter, sheep amidst and among wolves, but in the shadow of the shepherd, in his covering, his presence, his provision, his watch care. This is what God is telling us we're to live in -- this kind of a shelter -- this is kingdom reality. I shared a story in this series, which you can get it in five parts, God's Kingdom in You, where Beth Moore, Betty and I are sharing, I believe the most exciting journey you're ever going to find yourself suddenly embarking on, the reality of it. But I shared a story about how a blind dog helped me see. And by the way, if you would like to know what I'm writing every week relating to church issues, issues of spiritual significance and national concerns and how we can prayerfully address them, you can go to my web site, JamesRobison.net. What I'd really love you to do is take this time that I literally pour my heart out. When I wrote about the blind dog that helped me see, I was trying to take you into an experience where the kingdom presence of God could be revealed in a public place; in that instance in an Office Depot, office supply. Listen, go to JamesRobison.net, scroll back through, look at all the different things. I shared a very -- a highly interesting article about spending time with Glenn Beck. How Betty and I interacted and prayed with him and prayed for him. How do we pray for people who are visible? Who have seen something in us and they invite us in to talk about the kingdom and about Jesus? You ought to read that article. You can go on LifeToday.org, go over to the right side of that page and also find my columns. What I'd like you to do is begin to build your own network of sharing insights. If you believe that God has given us something to offer, pass it onto others. I am convinced as you access those commentaries, and the devotionals, you'll want to forward them to someone. I'm also convinced you get God's Kingdom in You

and you're going to find God's kingdom presence becoming a reality. Not just something you read about in the Bible, but something you're experiencing daily. Let's join some of that session, brief portions of it that you can get in nearly five hours of teaching, five sessions on DVD or CD, or both, along with Jim Hilton's book, "The Supernatural Skyline" where heaven touches earth. A fabulous book written by a pastor that is literally full of the kingdom life of God. Enjoy the time that Betty and I spent talking about the kingdom and sharing with you.

Begin video clip:

James: Beth, we're teaching under the basic umbrella of "The Basics of Life," but it is fulfilling God's kingdom agenda. We're trying to talk about God's kingdom in us, like you just said a while ago, it is in us right now, which is what Jesus said. Well, Betty has been knowing she is going to be a part of this and we've just been having awesome kingdom times together in the presence of the Lord. She gets up so excited, so happy.

Betty: I had such -- well, let me tell my story!

[Laughter]

Beth: Who hoo! Don't start! Don't start!

[Laughter]

Go while you can, Betty!

[Laughter]

Betty: He's getting a drink, hurry!

[Laughter]

When I got up this morning, I couldn't have had a sweeter time with the Lord. He took me back to some notes that I've written as far as two or three years back. Like "Do you remember this when you wrote this?" I thought, how sweet! Because they were my heart going out to him. It was my expression of what he's done and is doing

in my life and I wrote them down. So when James got up, you called and you were really excited --

Beth: It was 7:15 this morning.

Betty: Okay, you call and Beth, "Oh, I'm just ready for this. I'm so excited about it and everything." And he hung up from talking to you and I said, "I feel that same way." I said, "Let me just read a couple of things that God showed me in my quiet time with him." And I did. I said, "I'm going to get out and do some errands." So I get out and he's back at the house. So a couple hours go by and I called him. I said, "Honey, I don't know what's happening now but I feel like there is an onslaught of attack from the enemy. I can't do this tonight. I can't do it! You and Beth, you're the smart ones, you have the Bible knowledge, you're the scholars, you don't need me. I don't know where I fit in." I'm just boohooing over the phone. I'm crushed. I just -- the very last thing I read before I left the house is "Put on the full armor of God!" But you know that doesn't mean that -- there's a reason we're wearing that armor. There is a reason he tells us to put it on because of the attacks of the enemy. So I needed the encouragement and the love that I knew I was going to get when I called my husband to encourage me and remind me of how sweet Jesus is and how loving and how complete he is in me, and that I didn't have to take the lies and the manipulation and just the attacks of the enemy. So when I got home my husband ministered to me. He was so sweet, how God used him to be an encouragement to me, just because we're walking in this kingdom here with Jesus doesn't mean the enemy, he is waiting for every opportune moment to attack you. And that's why the fellowship of sweet Christians is so important, Beth. We have to have that. You're talking about the body working together. We need that.

Beth: I had that same kind of day yesterday. See, I had no idea. We needed to have talked this morning because that is how the enemy comes against us. One of the points we really want to make with you is that the enemy has his own kingdom agenda. He has a counterfeit -- anything God is doing, the enemy is trying to counterfeit. And one of the things he has forever wanted, which is the very thing that got him kicked out of the presence of God was that he wanted to be the most high over his own kingdom. So he attacks us, this onslaught of the enemy and for it to be timed around the moment we were coming together, united in a message over the kingdom is so like him because that is exactly how he does business.

James: When you reference... and I was listening and of course I was... it just hit me like a blow in the chest to hear your heart. I could hardly wait for her to get home so I

could go over and sit by her and hold her. By the way, when I did, Princess thrust her head right in here between us --

[Laughter]

And I said, "Minister to her, Princess, minister." She goes, "Woof! Woof! Woof! Woof!" I went over there and held her and just held a broken heart, a heavy heart. And she was all right. God, his grace showed up. But here's what I was feeling while Betty was talking just now, it was like somebody sat on me. Here's what I felt, listen to me, there are people here in the studio and at home, they say, "I feel that way a lot. I don't have anybody to hold me. My husband wouldn't seem to know how to hold me. Don't really feel like I have anybody to hold me." All right, now please, God, I lived there a lot. A little kid looking out the window wondering if I'd ever see my mother again because I was just left somewhere, I know what it feels like. But here's the thing I want you to hear, this is what I think is just huge, the reason a lot of men don't know how to hold a broken heart or hold a woman in arms of real love is they have never seen it. Beth, that's the lack of kingdom imprint. We don't know how to be fathers because we've not revealed the father very clearly, and that is kingdom. I just want to say to all of you that I don't know how long I'll be here on planet earth. They were celebrating what would have been Reagan's 100th birthday here a while back and he was elected president when he was 70, well, I'm pressing in on that age and yet I feel like I was just born. I feel like it is the beginning of my life. Betty, you've heard me say that many times. I don't know how long I'm going to be here. I don't know how long before Jesus comes but I want you to get this and I would really like you to get it straight. I know he is coming back and I rejoice in that. It is nothing but better for me when he comes, but I'm not looking for an escape route. I've got the king of kings and Lord of lords living inside of me. By the way, Beth was talking about that king a while ago, we're joint heirs with Christ but there is no joint kings. There is one king; his name is Jesus -- period! It is Jesus! So if you want to get that anointing that's on his head on you then you submit to that head. But if you'll submit to that head, I'm telling you, several things will happen. You've got to believe this, I've got to help you hear this. Yes, Betty had some comfort from me but I can promise you, she would have if I had not been there. She was already hearing about that armor. She was already hearing some things from the father in heaven. She was already getting kingdom truth. God would have been holding her and she would have known it. Just like I know he holds me and will hold me. He will hold you right where you are -- right where you are! God, hold my hurt -- hold my heart. But with that holding, say, "God, let me make such an imprint on others that they'll learn the importance of being a comforter." -- To comfort people with the comfort wherein we've been comforted. That's the comfort of God. That's the comforter -- that is the Holy Spirit. So this is what you're asking for.

Somehow, God help me help them understand this. If we can get you -- this is kingdom life, this is what we're talking about -- if we can get you to move out of your little limited world of everything surrounding your little world, however catastrophic it is, whatever it is, if you can just get outside that world, get in his world under this covering of the kingdom and begin to make a difference in other people's lives, you're going to be amazed at what happens to your world. Betty, in all honesty, if I hadn't been there, would you have been all right?

Betty: I would have been all right.

James: What if I had just made a mess and hadn't shown -- what would have happened if I hadn't been sensitive? What if I had just said, "Tough it up, girl! Tough it up! Come on!"

Betty: I was already hearing the Lord in my heart and his comforting me. I knew I was going to be all right. It was a blessing to have James there but I knew God was already there.

Beth: James and I knew you were going to be more than all right because what we have said many, many times and said a number of times to you is that no matter how he and I talk, we will just talk our heads up and get just riled up and Betty will come through with something and we will sit back and go, "Well, there it was!"

[Laughter]

So it always comes down to a Betty moment; doesn't it, James?

James: Always!

Beth: Always, over and over again. But something that we're talking about and as you were sharing that, our need for one another, and unity, and to be under the one head, not that he is conferred to us kingdoms but the kingdom -- the kingdom. I began thinking in preparation for today how one of the strongest laws of the kingdom is that united we stand and divided we fall. We've got to have the body. You know something that comes to me from time to time in verses like Romans 8:28 that we very often say to one another if we're active in God's word that we know that all things work together for good for those who love God and who are called according to his purpose. But Betty, one of the things that I love about it is, it says "we know." Sometimes when I'm not so sure, we know -- we know! We need the body to come together because in your isolation problems can become so pervasive and so

overwhelming that we can't see out from under it all by ourselves. But a couple other kingdom people come along beside us and remind us of the power that has been conferred upon us through the kingdom and that the only reason why the enemy is trying to assault us is because he is intimidated about what could happen through us if Christ really overtook us. If we could get that through our heads, that's the beauty of the united body. Something that we talked about in the first part of the kingdom segment together was how we've taken the doctrines regarding the Holy Spirit and have found all of these different houses and divisions over it. I thought to myself at that point how ironic, the very thing to bring us together, the Holy Spirit is what binds us together, Christ's spirit in us when we receive his spirit through our salvation. It is the very thing that unifies us and causes all these parts of the body to work together and yet that's the thing the enemy uses to divide us. We've got to start looking, we've got to start seeing where the enemy is coming against us and breaking down the power of the house because we're so divided. And he knows, if he can keep us there that that's where he wins. He does not win the war but he can win battle after battle after battle because all he's got to do is get us to disagree over something that is usually so secondary to the point. What sometimes we'll talk about in Wednesday class, there are spine issues but then there are rib issues that we can feel completely differently about and still be a house united. We know that we are safe through the blood of Christ Jesus and Christ Jesus alone. That he came in the body and dwelt among us and gave his life for us. Those are spine issues. All the rest of these things are eschatology, or doctrines of spiritual gifts, these are not the kinds of things for us to fall apart over! We've got to unite. This is an all out war we're in, a spiritual war and it takes the body coming together as one people just the way Christ prayed.

James: I have told a number of people over the years and even on television, I might have referenced it a time or two that years ago, now imagine this, I'm a young evangelist but I'm having huge crowds and Billy Graham loved me from the time I was 19 years old. But at a point in my life, probably in my early 30s I called Billy and Billy was probably at that time he was approaching 60 because he is in his 90s now. I called him up and I basically chewed him out. Because I said, "Why do you have all of these different people on your platform? You've got every kind of person up there. And you've got them in the counseling area. All this and why in the world -- why do you compromise with all of these people?" Imagine -- it makes me ashamed to say, who I think -- and yet, Beth, this is the way preachers talk about and to each other all of the time. I've been trained; I'd learned from preachers how to talk to preachers so I just went ahead and called the big shot, the most famous one in the world and told him off. I might as well show everybody what a man of God I am, I'll tell Billy Graham off. Here's what he said to me, he's so kind. He is such a precious man, so full of Jesus. He said, "Do you know these people you don't want me to be around?" I said, "No!

No! No! I wouldn't be seen with them -- I wouldn't be seen with these people." He said, "Well, I know them." And he said, "I love them and I see Jesus." Then he added -- here I'm a Baptist and I'm telling him, "Boy, you've got to hold the inerrant Word of God." And I just used to beat people nearly to death with the Word of God. I could just pound them with it. Just really make them feel better all over.

[Laughter]

I really used it as a bludgeoning instrument sometimes and I was good at it -- really good at it! I was really good. He said, "I don't know if you know this, Mr. Baptist, but I couldn't have a crusade out of the United States if I didn't have Pentecostals and Charismatics helping me, I wouldn't be able to have one." I felt like somebody just kind of hit me with a stun gun for a second. And he said, "There are a lot of places where Catholics are really hungry for the gospel and I just love them!" But it really stunned me but I paid a price. I began to know the people that I'd been taught not to know. As I got to know them, I not only saw Jesus but I began to become more like Jesus and have more love. I watched adjustments being made in the whole family. Beth, I've seen people adjust in areas where they were missing the mark and I've adjusted in so many ways. But the major adjustment is love to where if we reach a place that we say, "I don't agree with you on that" or "I think you're wrong," I can still speak the truth in love. I don't have to divorce them. They're still family. How many people have family members that have been out-of-sync But they are still family. You don't throw them out of the family. You say, "Well, I want to see them come back." And then a lot of times you're the one that does some adjusting in order for things to get right in the relationship. I think that we've really failed Beth, to realize how important it was what Jesus prayed in John 17 that we be -- here's the way he prayed it, that we be one with the father as he is with the father. See, this is where the whole kingdom starts is father, this is his kingdom where he is God, and Jesus is Lord and he is king. So he said, "I pray that you'll be like that and then you'll be perfected in unity. You'll have a love that is obvious to the world that you're my disciples because of the way you love one another." Not because you all agree, not because you're all the same, you're all meeting under the same bushel covering. No, no! But because you're all up in the light, illuminating the area where you are and learning together and loving each other while you are learning. And even in the error of your ways you'll be able to be corrected by love.

End of clip

In the studio:

James: With all my heart I pray that you will join us praying for a spiritual unity that Jesus prayed for in his last prayer, "One with the father, perfected in unity with one another." One with the father as he is with the father: This is kingdom life. Now listen, God has called us to minister to the suffering all over the world, to love the suffering. He has called us to rescue the perishing, to practice redemptive works, to not only talk about the love of God but demonstrate it. The viewers of *LIFE Today* -- you can't watch *LIFE Today* frequently and not desire to help someone in need. Right now we've got a major focus here to get the church to come together in holy health, in a spiritual oneness with the father. Yes, to find common ground to address common concerns without compromising any theological or biblical positions. We don't have to. We've compromised the greatest love for God and love for one another and the world knows it. Jesus said, "They will know you're my disciples because you love one another." And you can't love each other properly without kingdom presence, the power of God. So you be praying for us as I'm bringing leaders together from all segments of the family of God to show them that we're the family. We're not orphans, we're not just members of some particular group or order but a living organism, the body of Christ and we're asking you to pray with us. If you have a kingdom understanding of God's kingdom power in you so that you can focus your prayer effectively, and so that you can become a light that pierces the darkness and become a part of that city set on a hill, that's where the light come together to lift him up so that he will draw all men to himself. The city that cannot be hid must not and will not be hid if we're submitted to God. We will pierce the darkness. We will assume responsibility. We will make a difference. I'm asking you to go to the phone right now and request this series; five different parts where we're talking about the kingdom reality, God's Kingdom in You. You living in the divine presence and power of God. It transforms everything about you. It gives you a new understanding. It is oxygen for your spiritual lungs. We're going to send you the five-part series, along with Jim Hilton's book, "The Supernatural Skyline Where Heaven Touches Earth." This is the man that sort of walked into my life and opened kingdom reality, which I've been a part of for so many years; didn't know how to share it adequately. And that led to what we're teaching and sharing and what Beth has joined with us in, and I'm telling you, it is transforming. We will send you the CD's and the book for your gift of \$40. We're also asking you, and I really want you to pray about this, to consider getting the DVD series. It would be awesome for a Bible study group even with your church or your Bible study group. Perhaps invite other believers in your community or others who are curious about the kingdom and watch it together. We want to help you grow. We'll send the CD's also, along with Jim Hilton's book. I'm asking you to even consider making an additional gift beyond the \$40 or the \$90 for the DVD's and all the material to help us as an example, \$10 will feed a child for the next several months, \$20 will feed two, \$30 will feed three. So when you

ask for something that will help you, also consider reaching beyond yourself and changing someone else's life with the love of God. Thank you so much for making the call. Thanks for your help. I'm excited about you getting this series.

Begin video clip:

Announcer: Introducing God's Kingdom in You, a dynamic new teaching series that will inspire you to live every day in the power and presence of God. Through five dynamic messages, James and Betty Robison, along with bestselling author and teacher, Beth Moore, reveal timely insights concerning your role in the Kingdom of God. The kingdom is now and God wants to use you to express his love and reveal his power like never before! James and Beth share ways you can pierce the darkness of this world, how you can release the transforming power of his kingdom in your life, and to the world around you. It all starts with God's Kingdom in You. You can live in his presence in the present.

>> God's Kingdom in You series is just an awesome, awesome series!

>> The Kingdom of God is now, that joy is available to me now.

>> It is so practical and simple. It is amazing!

Announcer: Call now to receive the God's Kingdom in You audio series with companion scripture guide. And as a bonus, we will also send you Jim Hilton's new book, "The Supernatural Skyline" with your gift of \$40 or more. Or request both the video DVD and audio series with scripture guide and book for just \$90 or more. God's Kingdom in You is the power for living you've been looking for. Please call, write, or make your gift online!

End of clip

In the studio:

James: I really hope that you've made that call and I've never been more excited about putting something in your hands that will go straight to your heart. Beth Moore said, "James, you're so excited!" She said this in the seminar -- "It's like trying to lasso the wind." Somebody else says, "It is like getting a drink out of a fire hydrant, you're so excited!" I am! I'm excited about what God wants to do for you, in you, and through

you that someone else may experience the blessing of his presence. Thank you for making that call! Thank you for any help you give to enable us to effectively help others.

Begin video clip:

James: The Kingdom of God is right here near you in you to be revealed. This is what we fail to do! We have failed to impact and make a God-given imprint on the kingdoms of this world!

>> This is a launching pad. This is the beginning of a journey. This is a starting gate and it will help you solidify what you're supposed to be looking at, how this all works together. I love it!

>> It's going to inspire you to dig deeper into God's word and to share that with everybody... and how important it is.

Beth: There should be something so alive and active in us that other people in the lost world are drawn to it. It is the kingdom life and there is just that sense of -- there is something that I'm aching for -- there is something that I want -- something that is missing. And that message of the kingdom alive in each one of us is extremely contagious.

>> God's Kingdom in You created a longing in me to have an intimacy with him that I've never ever *ever* experienced before because I do want to hear from him, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant!"

End of clip

Announcer: Tomorrow, God's Kingdom in You. James and Betty Robison along with Beth Moore reveal timely insights concerning your role in the Kingdom of God.