

8/6/24

Week 32: WFL

James and Betty Robison

Dr. Ben Carson

In the studio

JAMES: Well, James Robison, and Betty, welcome you to *Life Today*. One of my favorite people on planet Earth is here. I believe this person has had as great an impact as anybody in my entire life, and I have known some high-impact people. I'm talking about Dr. Ben Carson.

Dr. Carson, let me just hold this up. This has got your picture on it and it looks great. This is the prettiest book cover I've ever seen. It is just fabulous. The perilous fight. You know, we've written a book about the same time, *Fight the Good Fight* because we're in a battle with spiritual demonic forces, deceptive, destructive, divisive forces. Do you agree with that?

BEN: Evil forces, principalities—and unless we align ourselves with the true power, we're not going to win that fight. But the Lord never puts us in a battle we can't win without his help.

JAMES: He left us here to win, didn't he?

BEN: He did. And we're going to. The interesting thing is the United States of America is much too strong to be brought down militarily but it can easily be brought down from within. Jesus said it best, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." There are evil forces, Marxism, one world government, that do not want us here because we are the ones who stand in the way. And they've figured out the way to take us down.

Our primary element, which is the family as God ordained it, is an institution that he gave us for our good. And then you look at what's being done to it.

JAMES: Ben, this book is tremendous, *The Perilous Fight*. You talk about the fact that the family is the way we had strength, and the family has been impacted in a profound way. You do believe though, the family has to be corrected. But you make in the fourth chapter a very powerful statement. You believe the way we're going to reverse the negative trends is to do the very thing that a lot of church people have been taught not to do. They've been taught to stay out of politics because it is dirty. Well, why did they think it was dirty? Because godly people stayed out. It is crazy talk. But you believe that we're going to have to impact Washington leadership in order to turn this nation back to sanity, and to stability, security, and a future. That's what you believe.

BEN: And you have to be more aggressive. You have to have courage. One of the things that I discovered when I was running for President, going to the smallest little hamlets in North Dakota and Alabama to the largest cities, was that most of the people had common sense. What they lacked was courage. They would much rather stand in the corner looking at the floor and not say anything and hope that no one calls them a nasty name or tries to cancel them than stand up for what they believe in. That's what's going to make the difference.

You're told from the time that you're a little child, two things you don't talk about: Religion and politics. Those are the exact things we need to be talking about because darkness is the cover for evil. And Satan, for instance, doesn't want you to think that he exists. He can do a much better job if you don't think he exists. By the same token, the things that are being done to our political system and our system of beliefs are horrendous. But they don't want you to talk about those whatsoever, and it is having a profound effect on us.

You look at some of the statistics I talk about in the book. In 1972, 90% of Americans identified as Christians; 50 years later that's down to 63%. That's pretty profound. In

2021, greater than 50% of the people have no affiliation with any church. Now think about, that in a country whose founding document the Declaration of Independence says that our rights come from our creator, AKA God.

It is really interesting that in 1958, a man by the name of Schempp, S-C-H-E-M-P-P, Edward Lewis Shempp filed a lawsuit against the Addington County school board because they required the school day to be started with prayer, the Lord's prayer, and a Bible reading. The state tried to accommodate him by saying you could have your kid excused with a note from the parents. That wasn't good enough. It ended up in the Supreme Court in 1963. They decided that, in fact, required prayer and Bible readings were unconstitutional. But then they extended it from there to say that there should be no governmental support for anything that has anything to do with religion. And it has just mushroomed from that point forward.

You look and you see what's happened to our society. When you look at traditional nuclear families, you look at kids that are raised in a traditional nuclear family, they're twice as likely to be successful academically. Then you look at ones who are raised in non-traditional families, they're virtually twice as likely to be involved with the police and the penal system.

In think tanks, both the liberal and conservative think tanks, both came to the same conclusions. That is kids raised with the traditional nuclear family do much better than kids who are not. And yet, our policies don't necessarily indicate that. When you look at Hollywood and television, they always hold up the alternative to the traditional nuclear family. Not only as acceptable but maybe as preferable these days. And that's why you have 30 percent of Gen Xers identifying as L.G.B.T. And of course, they say, it's because people are more open to that now. It is more acceptable. But if that were the case then it wouldn't be Gen Xers, it would be across all the generations and it is not. It is because of the social pressure and the things that have been taught to them since they were little children.

We're also seeing the impact of that on our college campuses now. Kids running around and supporting terrorist organizations. They obviously have no idea what they're talking about or what they're doing. But if you don't have that firm foundation that comes from your family, you become like a leaf blowing in the wind. Anything that comes along, you gravitate to it. That's why it is so important that you have a family that teaches you your family history, your roots, and who you are. Your history gives you your identity and your identity gives you your belief.

That's why whenever ISIS takes over a place, what do they do first? They tear down the museums and the libraries. They get rid of the people's history so that they can then manipulate them. And before communism and socialism take over any society, historically, they dumb down the population first. Isn't that what's happening to our population right now? You see those men-on-the-street interviews. They ask them the simplest questions. How many branches of the government are there? What does the Fourth of July commemorate? What countries border the United States? They have no idea. [Laughing]

JAMES: Ben, you and I were led by God to write a book about the principles that make America great, that our founders understood, and they put those principles in place. You can't have a good marriage without respect for one another. There are basic principles that have to be in every relationship for it to last. You can't even have a winning sports team if you don't have principles in place. They are very much family-type principles where you have respect and honor one another and appreciate one another and support one another and pull together.

Well, we're going to have to get our leadership back under the control of those principles or we're going to see everything that is special and blessed, that has blessed us and enabled us to bless others, it is going to vanish from the planet. And if we lose it here, we'll lose it all over the world.

I personally believe, which I think is the reason why people like us, as a couple, you and

Candy, and people that you and I know and respect are coming out boldly and saying we've got to take back what we gave the enemy. We're supposed to be overcomers. We're not supposed to be walked on. We're supposed to walk on the enemy like a scorpion under our feet. We're supposed to walk over his will like dirt under our feet. We're supposed to be overcomers.

Now we need to take it back. We need to take our schools back. We need to take our entertainment back. We need to take education back from the academic high level where the people who made money off the free market blessings, endowed those schools that destroyed the potential of the free market to continue as it is. And we've got to get people back in place in all the areas of the leadership. We've got to get church leaders to come out and take a stand and quit backing off. We've got to go back and do what we were left here to do, which the New Testament disciples did and they shook the whole world. The blessings of that shaking birthed this nation and can give a rebirth to every nation on the planet if we will just put those principles back in place.

BEN: You sound like a preacher. That's exactly right! [Laughing]

JAMES: It's what's in your book. I'm telling you, Ben, you and I write books. It's nice if you get a little income off of it but that's not the reason we write it. We write them because we want to show people the way to put the principles back in place. And we can.

Do you agree we can put them back in place faster than one can imagine if the people who understand they're important would just come together and like you said be courageous and take a stand?

BEN: That's what it is going to take, courage. The left thrives on intimidation. They make you shut up. They make you afraid. But we have to remember that you cannot be "the land of the free" if you are not "the home of the brave." It is up to us to grasp those principles and to boldly march forth.

I think one of the things that has encouraged me as I've been going around to college campuses with Turning Point, U.S.A., Charlie Kirk's group, and the crowds have been enormous. We've had to turn hundreds of students away. They realize that the American dream is disappearing in front of their eyes and that something different has to be put in place if we're going to be successful. I think our young people maybe are going to be one of the sources of the turnaround that this country is going to experience.

It is always darkest before the dawn. Sometimes it has to be pretty dark before people see the light. I think we're there.

JAMES: Betty, what do you want to say to this man? I know how much you love him.

BETTY: I do. Thank you, Dr. Carson, for what you just shared. You just put it all right in front of us that we need to go back to God's principles and God's foundations. And as Christians, we are not nullified from being involved in what we care about, and that's our country. We don't have to step aside and say, shh! Be quiet. You're a Christian. You can't have an opinion. You can't be right. But we know we are because we stand on those principles that God has put within us because of his son, Jesus Christ who gave his life for us. We need to be bold enough, just like you said, to be out there and to stand and be in battle for the Lord is our truth and he is our strength.

BEN: Amen!

JAMES: You know, Ben, we're going to offer your book today on our television program to everybody. We're drilling water wells right now for children who have never had clean water. For families who are dying. Most of the children who die of these waterborne illnesses are under five years of age. But we've been able to give a whole village water that lasts for a lifetime.

But everybody that helps us just give a cup of water, just help with drilling those water wells, we're going to send them your book. Why don't you encourage your pastor to

encourage every member of the church to get it? I can promise you the truth that you're going to hear is transforming truth. First of all, it will transform you and inspire you, and give you courage because of the power of the truth that's in the book. So please get it! Get others to get it.

But Ben, I want you to watch this with us because you have inspired us in so many areas of our outreaches. I know how much you and Candy love what God's called us to do because it works. Because love never fails. So let's look in on this and I just want you to know we love you with all our heart. We're 100% behind you. I hope everybody will support everything God calls you to do. Let's go right now and I want you to watch with us a very powerful story with a mother talking about what contaminated water did to her family.

On the mission field

JOHN: So I'm here in Liberia. We're here speaking to these families about the loss that they are suffering because of the lack of clean drinking water. Many families have suffered from cholera and other waterborne illnesses.

I'm in the home of a young woman named Blessing today. Blessing's here with her brand-new baby. So, Blessing, I know that you lost a child. Tell me your baby's name that you lost.

Open captions

>> His name was Morris.

JOHN: Do you know why he died?

Open captions

>> During the dry season, our water source gets very low. We try to scoop out the water

that looks the cleanest. I gave this water to my son to drink. And that's when he started to get sick. The water makes him vomit and have diarrhea.

JOHN: Now that you have this new baby, Cyrus, how do you give him water? What are you doing now?

Open captions

>> Right now, I don't know what to do. This is the only water we have to drink. I can only trust God to provide us clean water someday.

JOHN: We know you need clean water but if you could talk to my friends back home, what would you say to them to help prevent Cyrus from ever having to drink that very water again?

Open captions

>> I'd ask them to pray for us and tell them we need help right now. We need their help so that Cyrus and the other children in this village won't die.

JOHN: Can we please make her generation the last generation that ever has to suffer from the lack of clean water? We will be able to bring Water for LIFE to Blessing's village and villages just like Blessing's all over the world because you have a dream, you have a prayer. It just simply takes us being like Jesus and being willing to make a sacrifice to be a blessing.

End of video

In the studio

JAMES: We've drilled together, with your help, over 8,000 wells—saved millions of lives. We've inspired tens of thousands of wells to be drilled by individual churches.

Would you right now make a gift? Could you drill a well? Betty, many of our friends tell

us drilling a well every year is as great a joy as they have. You and I committed to try to drill a well every time we had the emphasis. And God answered our prayer. When we started it was \$3600, now it is \$4800. We've been able to do it. Hasn't it been a blessing?

BETTY: It really has. And I pray that as you listen to Blessing, what a beautiful name to have, she's asking for your help. She's lost one child and now she's holding another one in her arms. Let's give her hope. Did you hear her say that she looks for the cleanest water she can find? There is not any clean water. But she looks for the water that looks the clearest and tries to find the least disease in it.

Well, we have the answer to her problem by drilling the water wells. Won't you please reach out and let's offer hope and life to Blessing and all those around in that village who need your help for their precious little ones? Please join us in that.

JAMES: Betty, I'm praying we'll see the greatest response we've ever seen. I think you know that we've committed another 350 wells to be completed in the next few months. But we need to complete the income necessary. Would you right now ask God, God, what do you want me to do? Would you please? Could you drill a well? You know some of you have never even considered that but with \$4800 it's possible. Some of you could give \$1200 and pray three join us or \$2400 and pray one joins you. But you can help. Would you just ask God? And then do what he puts on your heart. Remember, \$48 gives ten people water for the rest of their lives. How big would that be to that little baby you just saw with that mother? That's one of the three. Don't think any gift is too small because life is too precious. \$144 gives 30 people water for the rest of their life.

Whatever you can do, please do it. Go get your bank card and use it like a check. It's the way you should always use it. But make the gift. Go online and call the number there. If you write a check, make it to *LIFE*, that's what you're giving. Please do it. We have some beautiful gifts to send you. You're giving the greatest gift. We give you blessings in life because we love you and it is your love being shared that gives so many people life with clean water. Would you do it right now, please? Don't put this off. Thank you so much

for sharing life.

Video begins

ANNOUNCER: Every day thousands of lives are lost to a waterborne disease, and nearly half of those are children under the age of five. Through Mission: Water for LIFE, now in its 25th year, you could give mothers hope and children a future as we provide clean life-giving water for thousands of children and their families before it is too late.

With your gift today, you can help drill and establish 350 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. And \$144 will help provide life-giving water for 30 people for a lifetime.

With a gift of any amount, we'll send you the "God's Word for My Day" devotional set. These four seasonal devotionals each contain a daily reading, an encouraging verse, and a thought to ponder for each day of the year.

With your gift of \$100 or more, you may request the "His Word is Life" tumbler set. These two 20-ounce stainless steel tumblers each inscribed with a scripture will inspire you throughout the day and help keep your drinks well-insulated while at home or on the go.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1200 to help provide water for 250 people. Or a gift of \$4800 to help sponsor a complete well. And request our beautiful bronze sculpture, "A Cup of Water."

Please call, write, or make your gift online.

End of video

Begin video

ANNOUNCER: Water: Earth's most abundant natural resource! Yet out of this abundance only a tiny fraction of it is suitable for drinking. And suitable is a loose definition.

JAMES: You know if you were thirsty in Africa or in many remote parts of the world, you would walk up to a stream like this and say, oh, I've got great water! But what you don't realize is, in this area alone, thousands of people got cholera, serious severe diarrhea. Many people, it cost them their children.

ANNOUNCER: Our mission teams have seen these water conditions firsthand in several countries around the world, and they have ministered to families whose lives are torn apart by contaminated water.

TAMMY: I've sat with mothers who have just buried their children. I've cried with them. I've wept with them. Asked them what they needed. The only thing they would ever tell me was water. Just if we had clean water, I know my children would still be alive.

JOHN: So I'm here in Boma, South Sudan with Lakukum. She is a mother from a local little village that is right up the hill here. She brought me down to her water source. I wouldn't let my dogs drink from this water. This is the story all over the world. Statistics show that one child will die every 20 seconds from a waterborne disease – and it doesn't have to be that way.

RANDY: Amiable, you see these kids down here getting this water; but this is not clean water, is it?

AMIABLE: It's not. It's very contaminated water. It has worms, frogs, all the animals come here and drink from this water, so it is not really safe to drink.

RANDY: I can't help but notice that they're working so hard to get water that actually could kill them.

AMIABLE: Yeah, but they have no other choice.

RANDY: They don't have the choice right now. It's just the death in the water. But we can give them the choice.

ANNOUNCER: While the problem here is serious, the solution is surprisingly simple – a clean water well. LIFE Outreach and its mission partners have the experienced teams and necessary equipment ready to drill hundreds of safe life-giving water wells around the world.

TAMMY: Clean water is here in this village and it's literally giving them water for life! Thank you so much everybody for all that you've given, all that you've sacrificed. It has changed so many lives of children all around the world just like here today.

[Cheering]

End of video

In the studio

JAMES: Thank you so much. I want to remind you that we will send every one of you who gave a gift Dr. Carson's book if you'd like to have it. We have other gifts that we'll send you because we love you.

I love this man. He's part of the great turnaround that we're going to experience in this country. And there is no one I love and respect more than Ben and Candy. I'm grateful for their love and respect for me and Betty.

Dr. Carson, thank you for being here. Thank you for sharing.

BEN: Thank you for having me. And thank you for what you're doing for the people who need the water. We take so many things for granted and this is an opportunity to actually save people's lives and make a difference in people's lives. We have so much. Thank you for doing that. It is just wonderful.

JAMES: Ben, let's stay in touch. We're going to stay close. We've got a lot to pray about. We've got a very important year and an important decision. We need to put principled people in place everywhere, and you have to know the principles, and those are shared clearly in Ben's book, as well as the book we wrote earlier this year, *Fight the Good Fight*.

God bless you, Ben! Give our love to Candy.

BEN: Thanks, friends. We will. Thank you.

JAMES: Okay, bye-bye!