

TELEVANGELIST SUMMARIES
June, 1983

JERRY FALWELL

"Pursuit and Momentum.....	72
The ACLU and Revival.....	72
Fundraising.....	72-73
"Miracle Day".....	73
On His Ministry.....	73-74

JAMES ROBISON

Homosexuality.....	74-75
National Spiritual Crisis.....	75
Nuclear Freeze.....	75

TIM LAHAYE

Two-income Families.....	75
No Atheistic founders.....	75

People For The American Way

Televangelist Broadcast Summaries

June 12 - August 7, 1983

Comments this month appear in the following order:

- I. Rev. Falwell's Old Time Gospel programs.
- II. Rev. James Robison's newly retitled program, In the Word.
- III. Rev. Tim LaHaye's comments from The LaHayes on Family Life.

Old Time Gospel Hour

June 12, 1983

'Pursuit and Momentum.' Rev. Falwell spoke on the topic "Pursuit and Momentum." The basic theme: fundraising. Falwell said that his various enterprises have momentum in pursuit of a goal: the rebirth of America through a great revival. He said:

The ACLU and the revival.

"ACLU...trying to throw God out of public life in this country. You know why all that's happening? Because the other side knows we're winning. The other side knows there's a spiritual awakening going on in this country. There's a grass-roots revival underway and it has the other side frightened."

Fundraising. Rev. Falwell claimed, however, that the ministry would have to go into "retreat" if it did not receive a \$10 million "miracle" by the end of the fiscal year (June 30). He asked his audience for money so that he would be able to avoid curtailment of any projects currently under way.

June 19, 1983

Fundraising. Entitled "Living By Faith," this program dealt almost entirely with fundraising. It opened with Rev. Falwell sitting in the program's control room describing the ministry's financial troubles. Falwell said he needed \$10 million by June 30 (the end of the fiscal year) or else the ministry would "collapse." Falwell asked:

"Is America worth saving? I believe so. And I believe that God is allowing us to share with others in turning this nation around. Do we want to evangelize the world? Those are the two goals God's given me in life: revival of America that we might save this nation of ours and give it to our children one day in better repair than our parents

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gave it to us, and world evangelization, sharing the saving gospel of Christ with the world."

"Miracle Day."

Rev. Falwell announced and repeated several times during the sermon that he had declared the following Sunday (June 26) "Miracle Day," the day he said he would try to raise the \$10 million he claims he needs to maintain operations.

Shortfall.

Rev. Falwell claimed the shortfall is the result of an overwhelming response to the program's prime time specials. This response, Falwell said, has pushed phone bills to \$300,000 a month and driven the ministry's overhead far beyond anything he had projected.

Dire prediction.

In speaking of all the ministry's work which might have to slow or stop, Falwell said:

681 "If we were to lose that momentum by shutting down, stopping, shifting into reverse, it could take us five years to get back where we are now, and I don't believe America has five years left. Unless we have a spiritual awakening, a revival in America...America will not survive even this decade. I believe that we've got to have a visitation from God. And I believe that God is allowing you and me, this ministry, to have a key part in that revival."

Personal miracle requests.

He concluded the sermon by asking his audience to send in to him requests for miracles so that the "prayer warriors" in Lynchburg could pray for those people the next Sunday while they prayed for the ministry.

June 26, 1983

Miracle Day.

Rev. Falwell had announced a week earlier that June 26 would be "Miracle Day" at the Old Time Gospel Hour. His sermon topic was "Is Fasting for Today?" This was in keeping with the theme of "Miracle Day" as a day of fasting and prayer for the ministry. As he did the previous week, Rev. Falwell stressed the impending financial crisis at the Old Time Gospel Hour and its need of \$10 million before midnight on June 30.

On his ministry.

Falwell said:

"We have 4200 acres of land out there called Liberty Mountain. We're developing a university that'll one day have 50,000 students on it...Hundreds and hundreds of millions of dollars I've got to raise. And then 400 TV stations and 500 radio stations carry our programs out there, and we spent \$20 million this year in air time alone. We're trying to start 5000 new churches between now and the end of the century, in the next 17 years. And then on top of that, we speak out on issues like abortion. A very volatile issue. We call it America's national sin. A

biological holocaust. We're trying to stop it. That's not a popular stance some places. We speak out for the state of Israel. That's very controversial. We believe Genesis 12 and Romans 9, 10, 11, and we stand in support of Israel. It's very controversial and a very volatile issue. We speak out against pornography and drugs. We speak out in favor of prayer going back in schools, voluntary prayer in schools. Trying to fight a battle, trying to turn the nation around. The question is: Why do you do it? And the answer is the same reason that everybody here today is doing what you're doing: We're trying to change America. We're trying to please God."

IN THE WORD 6-12-83

ROBISON

Homosexuality

"One half of our population now is being stricken by divorce. Will we minister to them? We've not ministered to the gay community. We don't believe the Lord can set them free, we're afraid of that plague, that disease of homosexuality, that harmful, demonic attack and oppression that takes them captive. Listen. I want you to know you can say to every homosexual and anyone who is practicing sexual deviance in your life: 'I want you to know you need not be held captive

and held hostage. In the name of Jesus, you can be free! You don't have to live that way! You can go home free tonight.' I don't care what the oppression is, Jesus Christ is the answer."

June 26, 1983

National
Spiritual
Crisis.

Several weeks ago Rev. James Robison began airing sermons from his crusade services. In this broadcast, the third part of the message "Our National Spiritual Crisis," he dealt briefly with the nuclear freeze issue.

Nuclear
Freeze.

Robison said:

"The people leading the so-called 'peace movement' will lead you into suicidal sleep. You can bank on that. You just buckle up. Any time the Communists start beating their drum to somebody's march, you'd better watch out."

The LaHaye's on Family life

June 12, 1983

Two-income
families.

In response to a viewer's letter on two-income families, LaHayes said:

"You have to be very careful that you do not get used to living on two incomes. The husband needs to feel that he is the breadwinner, the primary breadwinner. And whenever a husband and wife both work, I always suggest that the wife's income be kept separate. She takes out of it those necessary expenses that are extra because she's working, working outside the home. But whatever they have left over goes into a special fund or it pays certain payments or obligations or, in this case, masses enough to spend as a downpayment on the home. But remember, you have additional expenses down the line and they're called babies, children. And they are very expensive, and you don't want to put yourself under the slavery of living on two incomes otherwise you may opt not to have children and that would be so tragic indeed."

No atheistic
founders.

LaHaye said:

"This country was founded because of Jesus Christ. Yes, because of Jesus Christ this nation was established. For example, when I call the names of the Puritans and the Pilgrims I'm talking about religious people. They didn't bring atheists over here. Atheists stayed in Europe."