

Televangelist Broadcast Summaries

August 14 - October 2, 1983

Comments this month appear in the following order:

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

Old Time Gospel Hour

August 14, 1983

- Joshua Continuing his 12-part series on God's champions, Rev. Falwell delivered a sermon on Joshua. The following peripheral comments were of note.
- Reagan Falwell suggested that his audience pray for Ronald Reagan and for the Supreme Court justices. He said Reagan "is fighting a battle to return this country to moral decency, and you need to pray for your President." Falwell commended Justice O'Connor's vote against abortion rights, saying "Pray for those that God will put them in." Falwell added:

"Pray for the Roger Jepsens and the Jesse Helmeses and the Bill Armstrongs and the men and women in leadership all over this nation. Pray for those fighters for liberty. We're told to do that in First Timothy, Chapter 2."

In discussing Joshua's age (and his own -- now 50), Falwell said:

"President Reagan is a great encouragement to men. Seventy-two years old. Running the free world. I mean the most important person in the free world. Running this great land. Seventy-two, and he'll be 77 or 78 when he come out of the White House. Have you thought about that?"

Falwell said:

'Freezeniks'

"By the way, notice that Joshua would have had very little in common with today's freezeniks. You wouldn't have found him blocking the road to a nuclear plant. You wouldn't have found him marching in front of the White House against the President. He wasn't a pacifist. He wasn't a freezenik. He believed that there was something

better than just being free in slavery, and that something is to have freedom and to have liberty and to have it the way we have it in this country, and to do the will of God.

"I listen to these people talking their 'better red than dead' philosophy and giving all this garbage out that the people in Afghanistan, Poland and Nicaragua and Russia and Eastern Europe all have peace. Yes they have peace, but they have peace without freedom. We don't want that, and we're not going to have that."

August 21, 1983

Liberty Baptist College Rev. Falwell spent the majority of this program raising funds for Liberty Baptist College. Continuing his theme of 12 champions for Christ, Falwell gave his sermon on David.

On Sin Falwell had this to say about the general state of morality in America today:

"God's preachers today need to cry out against sin. We're talking about the national sin of America -- abortion. We're talking pornography -- the poison of the minds of our young people today. We're talking about the lack of religious freedom in our country today, no prayer in our public schools. We're talking about so many terrible things -- herpes, AIDS, pre-marital, extra-marital sex and homosexuality...Most preachers are not saying anything about these issues because it's unpopular. But we... are supposed to be crying out against sin ... and God will bless us if we do. In actuality, these preachers are supposed to be fighting against sin...."

August 28, 1983

Revival Although the stated topic of Rev. Falwell's sermon was "Elijah, the Prophet," Rev. Falwell spoke on America's decline in the 1960s and '70s and its revival in the 1980s.

Abortion On "the national sin of America," Falwell said:

"I do not know what God will do to America for murdering 13 million babies ... but I can tell you we will be judged."

Liberty Baptist College Falwell again mentioned the start of school at Liberty Baptist College, calling LBC the "fundamentalist Harvard." At LBC, Falwell said, young people are "learning not only how to make a living, but how to live." He said he was planning to expand LBC's curriculum to include day care and doctoral degrees.

OLD TIME GOSPEL HOUR 8-7-83

"God's Champions": Moses

Falwell dealt with Moses as one of the great leaders of the Hebrew people and as the lawgiver. Falwell pointed out the importance of the Ten Commandments to the rest of the Bible and to our society.

FALWELL

Abortion/Sin

"You know today it's very popular for a preacher not to mention sin. Not to bear down on national sin particularly. There's nothing that stirs up more hate than for me to come out calling abortion murder -- which it is -- and the national sin of America."

AIDS/Herpes

"We talk about AIDS as the judgment of God upon moral perversion in this society. We talk about herpes as the judgment of God upon heterosexual promiscuity just as AIDS is the judgment of God upon homosexual promiscuity. We talk about those things and immediately here comes the Norman Lear and the ACLU types and here comes the abortionists and the pornographers calling you everything but a gentleman. And immediately these wonderful evangelical leaders out there who ought to be standing up saying 'Praise God! You're right!' and everybody begin singing the same song, [instead] they say 'Well, he's too strident. He shouldn't be so outspoken.' And your own brethren who should be standing with you will take harbor and haven and retreat back in their own parishes and refuse to stand up as a champion for Christ and say 'Thus sayeth the word of God!'"

Judeo-Christian Tradition

"In the final analysis the prosperity or poverty of any nation is directly linked up to that nation's observance of these ten commandments. The Judeo-Christian tradition, what is that? Nothing more than the laws of God, the principles of God's word in the Old and New Testament. And God has blessed America, Proverbs 14:34, because we've lived, basically, for 107 years by those principles."

Anti-God Philosophy

"In the last 38 years since World War II, the affluence of this day, the moral permissiveness, the drug epidemic the recklessness, the anti-God philosophy that's taken manger scenes out of city halls and prayer out of public schools; that kind of anti-Christ spirit that's pervading our land has brought us to a place where we almost collapsed during the 60s and 70s. And unless we have that revival we're talking about in the 80s, we

will yet collapse."

AIDS/Herpes/Abortion

"When you look at AIDs, God's judgment because of the homosexual promiscuity in this land, and herpes, god's judgment because of heterosexual promiscuity, one can only use his imagination to determine what God is going to do to judge America because of 13 million little babies we've murdered since 1973. God is not mocked. whatsoever a nation soweth that shall that nation also reap."

IN THE WORD 8-21-83

ROBISON

Prayer/Abortion

Robison began by saying that if we lose the spiritual battle against Satan, then we lose on every other front.

"Our President is concerned about seeing the privilege of voluntary schools prayer restored and I thank God for his concern there. However, had we not failed to pray in our homes and our churches as we should, we certainly would not have lost that privilege in the schools. We would not be losing the battle on the issue of abortion. We would have impeached the Supreme Court for those Godless decisions of allowing those innocent children to be taken in the wombs of their mothers. But you see, we're losing too often on the spiritual front."

Reagan

Robison made a point of saying that he had recently been invited to the White House to have dinner with the President and to be briefed on some "national issues."

MEMO

To: All interested

From: Stefanie

Date: 8/16/83

RE: Falwell's latest prime time special

On Sunday night, August 14 at 11 p.m., WTTG aired Rev. Falwell's latest prime time special, entitled, "The Rebirth of America." This program is a videotaped version of the speech Falwell gave on the Fourth of July in Cincinnati, Ohio. In addition, the sermon is very similar to the sermon Falwell delivered for the regular Old Time Gospel Hour program which aired on July 3. While touching on topics like abortion, school prayer, drugs, pornography, homosexuality and the decline of the family, the main focus of this speech was a comparison of the United States and the Soviet Union.

Falwell said early on that he supported President Reagan's "peace through strength" initiative, calling it "the only logical" position. Falwell added:

"I'm for peace, but not for peace at any cost. I don't want the kind of peace that the Poles and the Afghans are enjoying today. I want the kind of peace that allows Jerry Falwell to say what he doggone pleases anywhere that he wants to say it without fear of anybody doing blooming anything about it. That's the kind of peace we have in this country."

On public education, Falwell said:

"It was a sad day when, 20 years ago, the Supreme Court expelled Almighty God from the halls of the public classrooms of this country. Since that time, because of that, every moral and spiritual and academic disease has broken out upon public education, until recently the President's Commission and the President, in their analysis, gave the system 'U' for unsatisfactory. And until God Almighty, who is light, is back in those schools, we're not going to have any academic improvement, and the drug epidemic and the moral permissiveness that has virtually wiped out public education in this country will continue like a cancer to do the same."

Falwell said that the American flag stands for freedom of speech, of the press, of assembly, of travel, of work, of private property ownership and of free elections. Falwell also said that the Red, White and Blue stood for compassion and for civil liberties.

Rolling out the Soviet flag, Falwell said that the Hammer and the Sickle stood for "death, murder...slavery," "political rape and pillage," "starvation," "bankruptcy," "no religious freedom," "no missionary work," "Godless atheism," and "everything that's bad in our world today."

Falwell said that "human life does not have the same value in the Marxist-

Leninist society as it does in a society based upon the Judeo-Christian tradition." Falwell said there were five million slaves in Siberian work camps, then asked: "Why doesn't the ACLU talk about the civil liberties of those five million Russians? ... Because they're a bunch of hypocrites, that's why!"

On Central America, Falwell said:

"Our President is getting it in the neck because of his suggestion that we should stop them in El Salvador. The fact is we either stop them in El Salvador or stop them in El Paso. One of the two. They're coming up right through Central American, and I personally believe ... we erred 20 years ago when we let that bearded atheist in Cuba, Mr. Castro, get by with intimidating this United States of America. I was asked by a newsman recently, 'Do you think we should invade Cuba?' Well, I'm not going to comment, but I'll say this, if our President were to announce today that we're going to invade Cuba tomorrow, I'd be out recruiting troops, and if they could use an old 49-year-old preacher, I'd join up."

Falwell concluded by saying America is turning back to God, and that the '80s would be remembered as a decade of moral and spiritual rebirth.