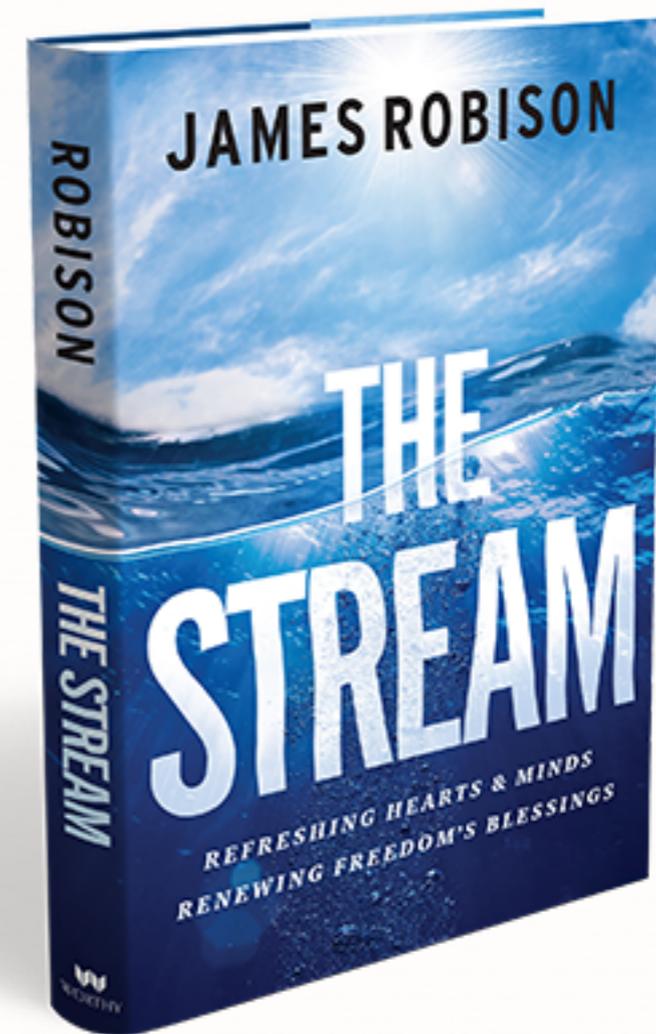


THE STREAM

INTRODUCTION

- This book is about restoration of the Christian faith and the renewal of an America whose foundations have eroded.
- It sets forth a path to personal restoration and outlines a plan for spiritual revolution in our culture, values, morals, and in government.



SPIRITUAL SOLUTIONS

AMERICA'S FUTURE?

- George Washington used this chair during the sessions of the Constitution Convention.
- James Madison reported Benjamin Franklin: "I have often looked at that sun behind the president without being able to tell whether it was rising or setting. But now I know that it is a rising sun."



AMERICA NEEDS HEALING

- Riots in Baltimore and Ferguson, Missouri.
- Protests at political rallies and a nation divided.
- Romans 1:18-32 reveals the progression of this rapid descent to depraved thinking and destruction.
- The Founders never conceived a nation separated from God. Today there is a movement to separate God from government and society.

AMERICA NEEDS HEALING

- We must return to what James Madison called on American to trust:
- “The guardianship and guidance of that Almighty Being whose power regulates the destiny of nations, whose blessings have been so conspicuously dispensed to this rising republic, and to whom we are bound to address our devout gratitude for the past, as well as our fervent supplications and best hopes for the future.”

MOST PEOPLE

- Most people don't like what is happening in our country.
- Most people want change.
- Most people are concerned about the national direction, the economy, and the future.
- Most people are angry about the inaction and ineffectiveness of Congress and other leaders.

SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

- We will only see a new day in America if there is a spiritual awakening.
- We can't fix things without God-given wisdom. We need: "bottom-up, inside-out, internal change."
- Government assistance can be executed without the gospel, but it will not be fully successful. We can discover life principles, but we need the gospel to apply them.

SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

- Many of our country's historical events and social movements started or flourished in churches.
- Today the local church still is a primary source of strength in communities: consolation after loss of loved one, food for the hungry, clothes for the needy, shelter for the homeless.
- We should be empowering local churches not assaulting religious liberty.

SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

- Gratitude - Thanksgiving (1621), Abraham Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation (1863).
- Apostle Paul - imprisoned in Philippi after being beaten (Acts 16:25) singing praises with Silas.
- Wisdom - much choose biblical principles over the ever-shifting opinions of secularists, rely on divine providence instead of politicians' promises.

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SOLUTIONS

FREEDOM

- Freedom - “It was for freedom that Christ set us free” (Galatians 5:1).
- God values freedom so much that He gives us the power to reject Him.
- We are losing our freedom: evil is now called good, and good is called evil (Isaiah 5:20).
- We should stand in defense of freedom.

FREEDOM

“Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We don’t pass it on to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on to them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children’s children what it was once like in the United State when men were free.”

Ronald Reagan

FREEDOM

- It is time to call a solemn assembly, to rend our hearts and not our garments (Joel 2:13).
- Freedom must be protected: A woman asked Benjamin Franklin, “Well, doctor, what have we got? A republic or a monarchy?” He wisely answered, “A republic, if you can keep it.”
- We are on the verge of losing freedom’s blessings.

EVIL

- We must fight evil.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. observed, “He who passively accepts evil is as much involved in it as he who helps to perpetuate it. He who accepts evil without protesting against it is really cooperating with it.”
- Haggai implored the people, “Consider your ways!” (Haggai 1:5, 7).

ABSOLUTES

1. Evil is real - look at the latest shootings in this country and radical Islamists around the world.
2. Ideas have consequences - every belief system will bear fruit (good fruit or bad fruit).
3. We are spiritual beings - God exists and created us to know His truth.
4. The majority is not always right - mobocracy
5. Truth withstands debate - truth is like a lion.

ABSOLUTES

6. People matter most - Paul reminds us “You should love your neighbor as yourself” (Galatians 5:14).
7. Equality is not sameness - no two people, no two snowflakes are the same.
8. If government doesn't serve it will enslave - we must keep government within its proper bounds.
9. Truth has a source - timeless truths of the Bible

GOVERNMENT

- Smaller government makes bigger citizens - the Jews were willing to put themselves under bondage: they asked, wouldn't it be better to return to Egypt? (Numbers 14:3) or live under a king (1 Samuel 8:6).
- If you question political correctness, and you are branded with a label (racist, bigot, homophobe).
- Small god leads to big government - and the value of each individual lessens.

GOVERNMENT DOCTRINES

1. The doctrine of using “deliberately mushy words and terminology.”
2. The doctrine of “never enough.” - rules, money, etc.
3. The doctrine of “the federal government always defines neighbor.” - illegal immigrant is neighbor
4. The doctrine of “the federal government commands how Americans will love their neighbors.” - transgendered person are valued over others.

GOVERNMENT DOCTRINES

5. The doctrine of “results don’t matter—only good intentions.” - poverty programs not judged by their effectiveness but by their good intentions.
6. The doctrine of “rules about rules.” - other people makes rules, and rules can change without notice.
7. The doctrine of “only the federal government can solve these problems.” - the only answer to every social problem is another government program.

**SOCIAL AND
CULTURAL SOLUTIONS**

EVERY LIFE MATTERS

- During the first Democratic presidential debate, candidates were asked, “Do black lives matter, or do all lives matter?”
- “We must proclaim that the twelve-week-old unborn baby sucking her thumb, the handicapped infant, the elderly widower hooked up to an oxygen tank, and the people we don’t think contribute to society are valuable simply by virtue of being human.”

EVERY LIFE MATTERS

- Many of the people who pay lip service to hot-button issues like “human rights” or “women’s health” or “caring for the poor” ignore the first issue, which is the right to life.
- The undercover videos of Planned Parenthood should cause everyone to stop and think. If Planned Parenthood had been active at the time of his birth, there probably would not be four generations of the Robison family.

EVERY LIFE MATTERS

- “Until Americans correctly choose this day whom they will serve (Joshua 24:15), they are going to be slaves to out-of-control appetites, compulsive behaviors, lack of sensitivity, diminishing compassion, bad judgment, and ever-increasing, unbearable bondage.”
- “Only Jesus can break the shackles, set the captives free, and give us hope, peace, and security.”

FAMILIES - FOUNDATION

- Jim Garlow - we are told when talking about concerns about the redefinition of the family, “that ship has sailed.” He reminds people that ships that have sailed are doomed to sink (*Titanic*).
- There are many examples in our past where the courts and the culture sailed a ship in the wrong direction (slavery, civil rights).
- We must obey God not men (Acts 5:29).

FATHERLESS NATION

- A huge percentage of Americans are fatherless.
- “We must recognize that there is only one way to fill the gaping hole in the human heart that is created by fatherlessness, and that is with the presence of the living God.”
- “I wish there had been a dad in my life, but I am so grateful to know the Father anyone can know.”

UNNATURAL DISASTERS

- We have many natural disasters that affect our lives (rain, storms, tornadoes).
- What about the unnatural disasters: uncontrolled, unbalanced budgets; excessive spending for unsustainable programs that have undermined fathers, families, and communities; exorbitant, misdirected taxation that saps wealth-creating enterprise.

RESPONSE

- “It is time for the church to draw a line in the sand, a line beyond which we will not go.”
- “As a nation, we have lost our moral compass and face losing true freedom.”
- “Marriage is inherently a union between one man and one woman, beneficial to children, and the first building block of the social order.”

CONCLUSION

1. The ever-increasing size and control granted to the federal government by the voters and representatives in Washington is destroying any hope of real progress.
2. The rapidly growing debt and the certain increase in taxes are bondage that will destroy any hope of future economic recovery and stability.
3. The lack of involvement on the part of Christians is diminishing our contribution to our nation's well-being and, in fact, contributing to its downfall.

CONCLUSION

4. The misinterpretation of founding principles is opening is up to great deception.
5. We have not embraced the value of human life.
6. We have lost the importance of family and marriage.

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*Drills deep into the refreshing stream of life-giving water that must flow freely
if we are to rise up as The Church and see the heart of America restored.*
— SHEILA WALSH

JAMES ROBISON

**THE
STREAM**

**REFRESHING HEARTS & MINDS
RENEWING FREEDOM'S BLESSINGS**

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