

International Teaching Ministry of Douglas Jacoby



MARCH 2007

International Teaching Ministry Update: LATIN AMERICA, VISIT EPHESUS!, AND MORE

This is the third update of '07, with the new monthly format. Past updates are available at the website. Enjoying updates and website? Please spread the word. (If not, just click on [REMOVE](#).) We're adding 15-20 pages of new material every week. If your email address has changed, please send the new and the old address (so it may be deleted). If you didn't sign up for the updates, it's possible a friend gave us your address. Hope you'll enjoy them.

FROM CENTRAL AMERICA TO SOUTH AMERICA!

February visits to the Central American nations of Belize and Guatemala were so encouraging! We met hundreds of faithful Christians, growing in their walk with the Lord and sharing their faith with others. Topics were the *Holy Spirit, Leadership, and Salvation*. My daughter and I definitely noticed the warmth and hospitality of the believers. This is all in spite of local hardships. In Belize City, armed robbers forced their way into the church building when only a few sisters were there. This happened the day before we arrived. In Guatemala, while we were preaching the gospel in the capital, the '80s-style execution of several Salvadorans was taking place not too far away. This is not to say that these nations are seeing no signs of progress, only to comment that violence and, to some extent, lawlessness are part of normal living for most of our fellow Christians worldwide.

The Belizeans' and Guatemalans' eager desire to be more deeply anchored in the Bible was also very apparent. Meeting older disciples, the newly baptized, and many non-Christian visitors is always uplifting. Special thanks to friends in Los Angeles who supplied teaching materials for both congregations, and to the North River Church of Christ (Marietta, Georgia), who sent me there. Next week I will be visiting Peru and Ecuador,



and then later in March I'll deliver two Spanish webcasts in Latin America (through Mexico City) on the subject of *What Happens After We Die?*, thanks to translator, friend, and fellow teacher Arturo Elizarraras. The final trip of the month will be to Nashville, where I'll preach on Human Suffering. After a peaceful start to the year, off to the races!

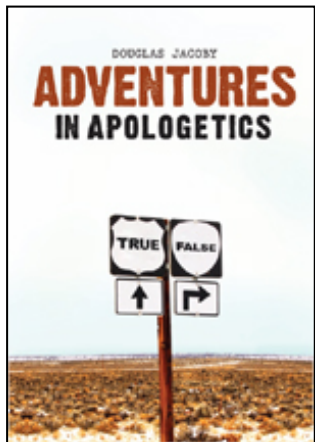
This month's newsletter features *five* study opportunities for the serious Bible student. Please keep reading!



AIM OPEN TRACK

Near the end of February we held AIM (the ministry and Bible training school) in the Atlanta area. This time we opened up the program. "AIM Open Track" is for people who are unable to take part in the full 160 hour diploma course, which includes 20 examinations, 4500 pages of reading, and numerous field trips over a period of two years. We began offering AIM on an open track basis in Europe last year, and noticed how many more were able to take part. In my view, thousands of brothers and sisters would *love* to receive deeper, more thorough Bible training, but do not know how to go about it. The program is designed for just such persons.

In the February Georgia program, attendees came from Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, California, Trinidad, and Jamaica. Of the 33 students, 8 were sisters, and 5 were from outside the US. Speakers included Joseph Harris, Sam Laing, John Oakes (via webcast from San Diego!) and me. Our next Full Track / Open Track session will take place 21-23 May. The topic: *Counseling and Psychology*. Next week the website will provide the necessary details.



DVD SET ON THE PROOFS FOR CHRISTIANITY

Interested in how to show others that the Christian faith is reasonable? Previously, the *Adventures in Apologetics* series was only available for download. Now, you can get the DVD hard copy. 9 Christian evidences -- a full 7 hours of teaching:

The Bible, Jesus Christ, World Religions, Creation & Evolution, Atheism, Philosophy, Existence of God, Character of God, and Can Man Live Without God?

Lessons average 45-50 mins each. You're sure to find a mountain of material at your disposal in this virtual library of evidences. Each lecture includes an audio component, video of the teacher (head shot of Douglas teaching) and a fully searchable, printable text. This series will amplify your knowledge and help prepare you to defend your faith. Price: \$30.



BIBLICAL STUDY: 1-2 TIMOTHY & TITUS

How's your personal Bible study going? Would you like to go deeper, see three New Testament letters come to life, and grow as a result of your efforts?

Heartfelt, timely, and on target, these "pastoral" letters were penned in the mid-first century by the apostle Paul. The recipients lived in the city of Ephesus and on the Mediterranean island of Crete. Just as the Ephesians and Cretans were urged to resist sophisticated, materialistic culture as it conflicts with the ideals of Christ, we too are challenged to be people of conviction. We must not conform to the culture of this world! Lessons include:

- * *Indispensable Background: Ancient Ephesus & Crete, Gnosticism & 2nd Generation.* Outline of all classes downloadable from CD1.
- * *Second Ephesians: 1 Timothy chapter by chapter*
- * *Liars, Brutes, Gluttons: Titus chapter by chapter*
- * *I'm Losing My Head; Keep Yours!: 2 Timothy, chapter by chapter.* Price: \$20.

STUDY TOUR IN EPHEBUS (& 13th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS' SEMINAR)



By popular demand, this year's Biblical Study Tour (BST) will take place in Ephesus! The ruins are truly expansive and phenomenally impressive. Nearly twenty centuries ago the apostle Paul brought the faith to this major world city (fourth largest in the Roman Empire). The ruins of its famous library are pictured at the left. Now you too can visit Ephesus, learn and grow! In November 2007, this incredible education opportunity will take place in several locations of interest to New Testament archaeology in the region of Turkey/Greece. Speakers and teachers from Europe, Asia, and North America; lessons come Acts 19 and Ephesians.

- 3 Nov (Sat)—fellowship dinner, Constantinople (Istanbul). **Start of BST.**
- 4 Nov (Sun)—church with Turkish Christians; explore Istanbul (ancient Constantinople).
- 5 Nov (Mon)—explore Pergamum, arrive Ephesus.
- 6 Nov (Tue)—Ephesus.
- 7 Nov (Wed)—Laodicea & Hierapolis; closing banquet
- 8 Nov (Thur) fly home from Izmir (IZM) *or* go to Patmos (optional), flying home on 9th.
- 8 Nov (Thur)—the 13th annual **International Teachers' Seminar (ITS)** begins on the island of Patmos (Greece), a three-hour boat journey away.
- 9 Nov (Fri)—ITS continues. **Ephesus.**
- 10 Nov (Sat)—ITS participants fly home.

Registration for the 2007 Biblical Study Tour and International Teachers' Seminar is now open. Click on the picture for full details. Don't miss this enriching, exciting, and encouraging event! – DJ



WHO IS MY BROTHER? More and more people around the world have been asking the vital question, "Who is my brother?" (Who is a true Christian? Are those not "with" us or "for" us *against* us? See Luke 9:49-50.) Well, the 12th Annual International Teachers' Seminar (Washington DC, November 2006), was structured around that very question. (Required reading was author, lawyer, and professor F. LaGard Smith's book *Who Is My Brother?*) The seminar theme was appropriate, relevant, timely, and much needed.

[F. LaGard Smith](#) gave the keynote address, *Understanding the Times*, as well as his candid outsider's perspective on the ICOC and COC, were remarkably stimulating and refreshing. Other speakers include Douglas Jacoby, Scott Green, Steve Staten, Gordon Ferguson, Malcolm Cox, Bob Kurka, Gary Holloway, Joseph Harris, Vicki Jacoby, Mark Green, Valdur Koha, Andrew Lewis, and Andy Fleming. 6 CDs include 7 messages and 10 shorter pieces. Total listening time: about 5 hours. Price: \$20.



NEW SERIES ON ISLAM, THE QUR'AN, TERRORISM, ETC.

Let's trek back through time to ancient Arabia: caravans of camels crisscross a million square miles of sand and rock; people worship the moon and other heavenly bodies; Christianity is in a state of moral decay and doctrinal chaos. The year is 610 AD. Muhammed, convinced the angel Gabriel has a message for him, begins preaching, and in time has gathered a band of followers. In a mere century, the empire reaches from Spain to India, and it is growing. Fast forward 1400 years. Muslims (literally, those who submit -- to Allah), no longer confined to the sands and rocks of Arabia, are a mighty horde, now the second largest religious movement in the world!

The Muslim Challenge includes the story of Islam, its sacred book, and the sober facts confronting every one of us as we take this major world religion seriously. Listen to *Kalb ibn Ya'qub* speak from the Qur'an about Islam, Jihad & Terrorism, and building bridges to Muslims. The CDs include four audio messages and also a complete .pdf copy of the Qur'an!

Although this audio set was featured in the February bulletin, technical problems prevented some of you from ordering it. Click on the image to get your copy of this fascinating study series. Price: \$20.

UNTIL APRIL...

The website continues to be upgraded. Thanks to all of you who are helping us to remove the glitches that occurred in setting up the new platform in January. This week you will find articles on "The Family Tomb of Jesus" and also Oprah Winfrey & "The Secret." Every day I add something new to www.douglasjacoby.com.

That's all for now. I deeply appreciate your believing in this growing ministry, and all your prayers that through it Christ may be glorified. -- DJ

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