

International Teaching Ministry of Douglas Jacoby



International Bible Teaching Ministry Update 2004 Issue 01

"Challenging men and women of faith to think"

Past newsletters are available at the [website](#). Enjoying the updates and the website? Please spread the word. (If not, just click on REMOVE.) And if your email address has changed, please send us both new *and* old address. The website features new material every day. Look for Q&As, Articles, and daily Bible studies under "Through the N.T. in a year."

JANUARY-FEBRUARY TEACHING MINISTRY UPDATE: TOKYO REPORT, A.I.M. LAUNCH, LATIN AMERICA, 2004 INTERNATIONAL BIBLICAL STUDY TOUR & I.T.S.

Starting this year, we have changed over to a bimonthly bulletin format. (Expect the next bulletin sometime in April.) This update brings news from Japan and Mexico, as well as a report on the newly established Athens Institute of Ministry. It concludes with an important preliminary interest survey for an exciting biblical study tour open to all, to be held in Rome, Italy, in November. (Please respond!)

I. TOKYO REPORT

Early in January I visited the great city of Tokyo, where I spoke on a number of subjects, including the Holy Spirit, leadership, and dating. Notes for several of the lessons are available here at the website as a pdf file. My next trip is to Scandinavia (Baltic conference) and the eastern Mediterranean (Middle Eastern teaching conference) in February. Following are some of the responses from Japanese Christians who attended the teaching weekend:

"I want to say thank you for coming and helping our church with God's word. We needed to hear your messages very much to have a deeper foundation of faith to God. I have lots of questions about the Bible, the ministry, and so on. And I wanted to ask you about them, yet what I understood and learned from you is that I need to take personal responsibility to study and search out the word of God, not just look for quick answers."

"Thanks for coming to Tokyo and teaching us many important things from the Scriptures... I'd become unaware I was growing lukewarm. Now I've decided to read the Bible eagerly again. Your lecture provided new motivation..."

"Thank you for your lessons and insights. I learned a lot, and was also very encouraged to read the Bible. This is such a fundamental thing, but honestly, before the teaching weekend, I didn't have a strong motivation to read it. But now I really want to get back my faith!"

II. AIM REPORT: SESSION I

A.I.M. is now officially off the ground!

January 19-24 we held the first session of AIM (Athens Institute of Ministry). Participants came from Florida, Georgia and Maryland, as well as from the West (Denver, San Diego, Los Angeles). The group included staff and non-staff, men and women, elders, teachers, evangelists and interns. In addition to this group, we have our LD (long distance) students, who will be watching the classes on DVD. LD students currently are from Hawaii, Texas, California, and the Ukraine, though many more will join us as the year progresses.

First session subjects were New Testament Survey, New Testament Interpretation, and Church Building. May 17-20 the second (shorter) session will take place, on Homiletics (teaching and preaching), with two special sessions on Missionary Faith with Mike Taliaferro. Here's what some of the first session students said:

"My personal study will never be the same because of this course. I see scripture as part of the whole Bible, rather than as a series of isolated truths. I'll definitely preach and teach with more authority as I become a better student of the word."

"I learned more Bible in one week than I have in the past 10 years!"

"I'm enjoying my reading. I haven't used my mind this way since I was in graduate school."

"As a result of AIM, I am approaching my Bible study with more enthusiasm. And I now have tons of things to study!.. I feel like I'm looking at the Bible from a whole new angle. It's exciting to think about the things I know I'm going to discover."

More and more persons are signing up, and new additions can enter the program at any time. For more information, see the downloadable article at the website. Note: AIM is a not-for-profit 501 (c) (3) corporation.

III. LATIN AMERICA

Arturo Elizarrarás, evangelist for the church in Querétaro, Mexico, has recently been asked to serve as a Teacher for the Mexican and Central American churches. He has raised up a sizable group of teachers in some twenty cities, in addition to establishing a prosperous Bible School. Arturo has been part of our international teaching group since 1999, and continues to be an inspiration not only in Latin America, but throughout the world. Please keep all the churches of Latin America in your prayers.

IV. BIBLICAL STUDY TOUR and INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS' SEMINAR, Rome, 5-9 November 2004

Anyone receiving this email—and anybody else—why not make plans to come to Italy this November! A biblical study tour, still under construction, will include visits to the Coliseum, catacombs, Vatican, Pompeii (destroyed by Mt. Vesuvius in 79 AD), as well as deep biblical teaching (Romans and Revelation), archaeology, patristics, and exquisite international fellowship.

In conjunction with this study tour the 10th annual International Teachers' Seminar will take place. In other words, there will be two "tracks": the main track, for all who are interested in seeing this historic city come to life in the light of the Bible and Christian history, and the more academic track (the I.T.S., featuring more in-depth and technical lessons).

1. Track 1 is open to all—men, women, and older children (13 and up). There is no leadership requirement, though medically speaking participants must be able to walk and climb without losing their breath. I look forward to being involved with teaching in Track 1, and leading tours to the various sites.
2. Participation in the ITS (Track 2) requires a recommendation from an elder, evangelist, or the church leadership group, and is geared for those who actively teach in their home congregations, or are involved in it (e.g. through occasional teaching, writing, or financially supporting it). This is our 10th annual International Teachers' Seminar; the 2003 event recently took place in Chicago. There will be several instructors in Track 2, and we will focus on teaching material for our churches centered in Rome/Romans/Patristics etc.

The cost of the tour—whether you take part in Track 1 or Track 2—which apart from airfare is all-inclusive (hotel, all meals, admission to sites, and registration), should be about US\$700 (the usual cost for the ITS since the late 1990s). The price will be determined in part by the number of participants; above a certain limit, per-participant costs decrease. The pre-schedule for Rome 2004 is as follows:

February 1-15

Indication of interest sent in by email. (You can let us know later, but earlier is more helpful.)

June 1-July 15

Early payment accepted (10% discount).

July 16-September 15

Registration—payment due.

September 16-November 1

Late registration—10% surcharge.

November 5-9

2004 International Bible Study Tour and 10th Annual International Teachers' Seminar.

Please let us know a.s.a.p. if you would like to participate in Rome 2004. In your email, also indicate whether you would be attending Track 1 or Track 2. (If you are not sure, guess!) As soon as we have a preliminary idea of how many persons to expect, we will begin work with our agents in Rome.

V. WEBSITE

After an entire month of Q&A in January (Monday to Saturday), in February and March we revert to the previous pattern:

Monday = Bible quiz Tuesday = linguistic insights and quiz answers Wednesday = Q&A Thursday = Church History Friday = Evidences Saturday = Family circle Sunday = Prayer points

New material is posted to the website (www.DouglasJacoby.com) every single day. Become a frequent visitor, and if you are benefiting from the material, tell your friends!

FAREWELL!

May God bless each of you, and your personal ministry. Thank you for your interest in the international teaching ministry, and for supporting it through prayer.

Your brother, Douglas Jacoby

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