

International Teaching Ministry of Douglas Jacoby



International Bible Teaching Ministry Update 2004 Issue 02

"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."

Starting this year, we have changed over to a bimonthly schedule. The next regular bulletin will be sent out around 1 June.

I. AIM REPORT: SESSION II

In May the second meeting of the Athens Institute of Ministry will be in session. The main theme of the week is Homiletics (biblical preaching and teaching), and includes lessons on expository preaching, sermon series, teaching days, book & tape ministries, keeping sermons interesting, and much more. In addition, Mike Taliaferro will be sharing on Missionary Faith: Lessons from Africa as the the Church-Building series continues. The number of students (including distance students) is growing. Just a reminder: new additions are welcome at any time in the two-year cycle. For more details, see the updated AIM download at website.

II. PERSONAL UPDATE

In early March I completed the Biblical Counseling course of the American Association of Christian Counselors. This is a 30-hour distance course (with five examinations), and contains a number of helpful lessons. If you are interested, see AACC.net. As for travel, teaching programs since the last update took place in Scandinavia, the Middle East, Atlanta, and Pittsburgh.

It was encouraging to speak in late February in Atlanta on Church History and lessons for today (powerpoint). In March I also delivered two Sunday School classes on the Holy Spirit (Baptism in the Spirit and Gifts of the Spirit) here in Athens , our home congregation. Last weekend I spoke on various subjects from Genesis (my new book had just been released) in Pittsburgh . Topics included the Woman's Role, Paradise, What happens when we die, Hell, the Fall, and more. This weekend (April 3-4) I'll be teaching in Boise --Holy Spirit, Church History, Marriage & Parenting, Leadership, etc. Later in the month I will return to Europe . The later Spring will include Columbia SC--as well as a visit to the other side of the world. Below are the February international teaching reports originally posted at the website, for your information.

February 13th-16th I was in Stockholm , the snowy city where our family lived 1989-1992. As always, the return visit was a joyous reunion, and it was heartening to see so many disciples doing so well. The Stockholm church had invited congregations in the Baltic area to attend an inspiring conference (entitled "One Heart"), including those in the nations of Denmark, Norway, Finland, Iceland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. In addition, a number of participants came from other countries, such as Russia, Slovenia, France, and Britain. Several hundred took part in the weekend seminar. My biblical exposition covered the book of Hebrews. In addition, I taught a class on leadership roles in the New Testament, and on the final morning spent several hours with Baltic area staff in an open Q&A session. Special thanks to Christopher Lindfeldt and Reese Neyland for their role in the conference. The Baltic churches are growing in faith, and also in numbers. The first night of the conference, the ice was broken (literally) as one young man entered the frigid waters of baptism. He had been visiting the church on and off for nine years! As Paul suggested (and prayed), "Short time or long," may everyone receive an opportunity to respond to the gospel.

Next I headed to London for a brief visit. I visited a favorite haunt (the BritishMuseum) as well as a number of sites special to my wife and me. Fellowship with a couple of the London leaders (Malcolm Cox and Andrew Agerbak) made the stop in the UK extra special.

On Wednesday 18th February, I met Middle East leaders from a dozen nations in a conference headed up by Andy Fleming. Though Arabic was language of choice, I spoke in my best English, supplemented with occasional translation. My assignment: to teach an Old Testament Survey course which they would in turn be able to teach their respective congregations. Apart from a few visits to Israel, I had not previously been connected with the Middle East leaders, and so on the emotional front this was an especially meaningful visit. Please keep the Middle Eastern churches in your prayers. These courageous and faithful brothers and sisters, serving in all the nations of the Arab world which we are reminded of on CNN every day, need our support. They are carrying on a great work. Let us hold up their arms in any way we are

able.

III. NEW BOOK

Genesis, Science & History has finally been published. This book is 50% evidences, 50% biblical study. Although it includes a good deal of material from the previous The God Who Dared, the new volume contains a large amount of new material, and it is hoped it will be helpful in bringing non-believers to faith, and strengthening the faith of Christians of all ages. See website for details.

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 will include visits to the Coliseum, catacombs, Vatican, as well as deep biblical teaching (Romans and Revelation), archaeology, patristics, and exquisite international fellowship. I will be heading to Rome in a couple of weeks to finalize hotel and meeting arrangements.

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.

Note: the US\$-Euro exchange rate is likely to affect the price, either upward or downward. Depending on where you live (North America or Europe, for example), you will want to pray accordingly! We hope to be able to specify the exact price by late May.

The pre-schedule for Rome 2004 is as follows:

February-May

Please send indication of interest by email.

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

Biblical 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.

V. OLD TESTAMENT SERIES

Later this Spring a new series will be available, " Foundations in Faith: Old Testament Survey ." 18 lessons, recorded on CD, are accompanied by a meaty handbook to guide you through a course of self-study.

CIAO!

Thank you for your interest in the international teaching ministry, and for supporting it through prayer. Your brother,
Douglas Jacoby