

# International Teaching Ministry of Douglas Jacoby



## International Bible Teaching Ministry Update 2004 Issue 03

### "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."

### PERSONAL UPDATE TRAVEL & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Greetings from hot Georgia! Since the last update, two months ago, it feels like summer has arrived. The children have been out of school for two weeks. And it is hot down here! I've visited Boise, Idaho; Kiev and Odessa, Ukraine; Milan, Italy; and Tallahassee, Florida. This evening I head to Columbia, South Carolina for a teaching weekend, and at the end of the month to Birmingham, Alabama, as well as Orlando, Florida, for the South East Family Bible Conference. (You can view the program and register at the South Florida Church website. Click on <http://www.southfloridachurch.org>.)

Later I fly to Australia, to work in Sydney and Brisbane. I am really looking forward to being reunited with all the brothers and sisters there!

It is very encouraging to see so many congregations standing on their own feet, studying, praying, and making their way forward. The fellowship with Christians around the nation and around the world has been tremendous. It is a constant source of encouragement for me. (And yes, I do need encouragement!)

It was especially an honor to fellowship with the Christians of Kiev and Odessa. There are thousands of faithful disciples in this former Soviet republic! They are keeping the faith. I was reminded of the Thessalonians, who turned to God from idols, and whose faith rang out as an example to all of Europe. I even finally received the Russian version of True & Reasonable. The church in Milan is much smaller, but a true family nevertheless. It was super seeing some of the old London members who now live in Italy. The church is on the rebound, having started only in September 2003 to go through the turbulence we have all experienced. Already they are learning to trust again, and learning to stand for what they believe in. I was warmly received, and enjoyed the Milanese hospitality. And yes, I even ate a pizza. A real pizza pie!

### BIBLICAL STUDY MATERIAL

The bedroom has become a recording studio. Today I finished a 7-part CD series on the Wisdom Literature, which will be available in a few weeks. The OT series, FOUNDATIONS IN FAITH, will be recorded later in June, and should be out sometime in the mid-summer. It is accompanied by a 100-page handbook. Here in the Athens church I'm beginning to teach a New Testament Survey series, which will also become a CD series by late summer. So many people are asking for biblical study materials, and it is encouraging to know that many brothers and sisters around the world are striving to meet that need.

### II. ITALY!

In April I had a chance to spend a few days in Rome. I went there to prepare for the autumn study tour (below). I saw everything I'd hoped to see: Temples, the Forum, the Coliseum, and the Catacombs. I visited Pompeii, destroyed by Mt. Vesuvius in 78 AD, and viewed the incinerated bodies of those who did not escape the blast. The Vatican Museum, with its renowned Cistine Chapel, was especially stunning. I even saw the Pope. This is the city where Peter and Paul were martyred. It is the city Paul longed to visit (Romans 1), erstwhile capital of the "known world," and the great city described in Revelation 18. Although I've been in a good few cities full of history and artifacts, I was not prepared for Rome. The sheer volume of treasures ancient, medieval, and modern is overwhelming. During our November study tour, we will explore only the tip of the iceberg. Not that that won't be great!

I had been in Rome in 1980, for a full 24 hours! This time I had 5 days. Time to think. Time to realize the enormity of the former Empire that blessed the world through its institutions and the peace, or Pax Romana, it brought and which lubricated the spread of the gospel in the first century. I felt very small, but also very proud of the kingdom of God, which, after all, conquered Rome itself.

Well, have you been to Rome? Want to go?

### **III. ROME BIBLICAL STUDY TOUR and INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS' SEMINAR, NOVEMBER 2004**

Many disciples are seizing the opportunity. Responses have been enthusiastic in Europe and North America, and registrations are pouring in for the autumn study tour. Full details are at the website. A number of elders, teachers, and evangelists from around the world are descending on the historic city of Rome, once capital of the world. Christian men, women, teenagers, and friends are signing up for the study tour.

Important note: I have to wire the deposit money to Rome on 15 June--which is why the seminar price rises after that date. Please register soon if you plan to attend so that we can plan accordingly.

Registrants (so far) come from Great Britain, France, Italy, Germany, Singapore, Mexico, the United States, and China. Why don't you consider becoming part of this international fellowship?

### **IV. GENESIS, SCIENCE & HISTORY**

Finally published, the book is being marketed in many Barnes & Noble stores, as well as through several major distributors. It contains 50% evidences, 50% biblical study. Although there are several rewritten chapters from the previous *The God Who Dared*, the new GSH also contains a large amount of fresh material. It is hoped this tool will be helpful in bringing non-believers to faith, and strengthening the faith of Christians of all ages.

### **V. AIM REPORT: SESSION II**

In May the second session of the Athens Institute of Ministry took place. The number of students domestically and also abroad (in the distance division) is increasing. Students hail from Thailand, Jamaica, the Bahamas, Ghana, South Africa, the Ivory Coast, Ukraine, Brazil, Argentina, the United States, Lebanon, Bahrain, Russia, and Singapore.

The homiletics classes included lessons on expository preaching, sermon series, teaching days, book & tape ministries, and much more. In addition, Mike Taliaferro did a brilliant job sharing about Missionary Faith: Lessons from Africa, as part of the Church-Building series. It was especially uplifting to hear that the churches in the African nations have thrived through this past year. I am always eager for missions news, and we were all happy because of the report Mike brought. In addition, he delivered a fabulous lesson on Judgment and Grace to the Athens church. Just a reminder: new additions to A.I.M. are welcome at any time in the two-year cycle.

### **VI. NEW PAPER ON PREACHING AND PREACHERS**

This week at the website I have posted a new paper entitled "The Workman Approved: Preaching and Preachers." Why not have a look and let me know what you think? (You'll notice I'm not the only one who felt the need to address the subject of how sermons should motivate congregations!) This is a biblical study. It was written to promote the spread of the gospel. Please read it!

### **VII. WEBSITE FEEDBACK**

If you have any feedback on the website, especially suggestions for making it more user-friendly, we would like to hear from you. Please email the web managers and myself at [Dr.DJ@DouglasJacoby.com](mailto:Dr.DJ@DouglasJacoby.com). Thank you.

### **CIAO!**

Thanks for your interest in the international teaching ministry. Your prayers are appreciated.  
Your brother, Douglas Jacoby

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