

International Teaching Ministry of Douglas Jacoby



JUNE 2007 International Teaching Ministry Update: Take AIM! series ready, Shermer debate, Ephesus update

*Past updates are available at the website, where you will also find 15-20 pages of new material weekly. Enjoying the updates and website? Please spread the word. (If not, just click on **REMOVE**.) If your email address has changed, please send the new and the old address (for deletion). If you didn't sign up, a friend gave us your address. Hope you enjoy them.*

Hello! We are very excited to announce that, at long last, **Take AIM!** is ready. This consists of approximately 150 hours of classroom teaching on DVD, and is by far the largest teaching project we have ever produced. Details are below -- I hope you'll find something of interest to call you higher as you love God with all your heart and mind.

EPHESUS UPDATE **(Yes, there's still room!)**

From 3-8 Nov 2007, visit biblical **Pergamum, Hierapolis, Laodicea, Ephesus & Patmos.**

Enjoy sumptuous fellowship meals, fellowship with Turkish Christians in Istanbul and disciples from Europe, Latin America, Africa, Asia, and the South Pacific. Digest lessons from a number of international teachers. Most important, take time to ponder the significance of what the Lord did in this amazing land some two millennia ago.

The Teachers' Seminar (our 13th annual seminar) will meet at the end of the tour, 8-9 November, in Patmos and (again) Ephesus.

Of all the ancient ruins I have visited, none has compared with Ephesus! And this is a comment I hear from many who take the time to visit and build their faith. *The picture above is of the Aegean Sea, with Greece and its islands on the left, Turkey on the right, and the Mediterranean below.*



Having solicited ideas from many teachers worldwide, it seems the best theme for this year's seminar will be:

LEARNING FROM THE EARLY CHRISTIANS: Ephesus -- Window into Church History

Ephesus is an ancient city, through whose history we receive many glimpses into the apostolic and subapostolic age. We're able to gain invaluable glimpses into church life in Ephesus over the space of some 60 years, as the founding Christian community entered its second and third generations. The challenges facing the Ephesians are *our* challenges.

Church history is replete with lessons pertaining to faith, leadership, unity, service, doctrine, cooperation, evangelism, Christian life, and so much more! Every century and every generation has much to teach us, though in this seminar we will be focusing on the early period. Patristics are a much neglected yet highly rewarding field of study, and Bible-centered Christians have much to learn. Two other cities whose early Christian history we may study (not to say our look at church history will be limited to only 2 or 3 cities) are Rome and Corinth.

Ephesus

1. 53 AD: Its establishment and early days in Acts 19-20
2. 60 AD: Paul's letter to the Ephesians and other churches in the province of Asia
3. 63 AD: Paul's letters to Timothy, evangelist in Ephesus
4. 69-96 AD: Jesus' letter to the Ephesians in Revelation 2
5. 111 AD: Ignatius' letter to the Ephesians, on his way to execution in Rome

Rome

1. 30 AD: church is founded (presumably), based on Acts 2
2. 52 AD: Paul's letter to the Romans, written from Corinth
3. 69-96 AD: Clement's letter from Rome to the Corinthians
4. 111 AD: Ignatius' letter to the Romans, on his way to execution in Rome
5. And much more...

Corinth

1. 51 AD: the church is founded, Acts 18
2. 53 AD: Paul's first surviving letter to the Corinthians
3. 55 AD: Paul's second surviving letter to the Corinthians
4. 69-96 AD: Clement's letter to the Corinthians



In addition to studying church history and making the modern applications, the teachers and those supportive of the teaching ministry will focus on curriculum development. Many congregations crave biblical teaching materials: midweek series, teaching day plans, Sunday adult education programs, etc. This is something that many of the teachers are already involved in doing.

Still room!

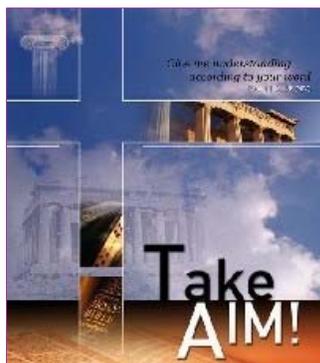
70 men and women from 12 nations have signed up so far (25 from outside the United States), with new additions every week. **There's still room! In fact, 4 more people signed up just today!** for more info: [details](#).

THE DEBATE

My interests in evidences -- this is what really brought me to faith in the 1970s -- has been piquing. At the international apologetics **conference** being organized by John Oakes in Irvine, California, I will debate the skeptic **Michael Shermer**. Please pray that good will come out of this interaction, and Christ will be lifted up. The date of the debate is 23 June, and it will be recorded for all who would like to view it.

SUMMER TRAVEL

Summer speaking visits include Los Angeles, California (Old Testament Survey and Interpretation and local regional teaching), Jacksonville, Florida (preaching from Luke 15), Los Angeles, California (apologetics conference), San Juan, Puerto Rico (various topics), Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (TBD), Boston, Massachusetts (campus ministry seminar), Orlando (Florida Discipleship Conference), San Diego, California (New Testament Survey and Interpretation), London, England (Church History and Worldviews), Edinburgh, Scotland (preaching), Atlanta (Singles' Conference), and Europe.



TAKE AIM! is a study program with 20 university level courses. Most courses are 10 hours long (Series A) or 5 hours long (Series B), and all are in DVD format. Most were recorded 2004-2005. Offered without classroom instruction, exams, or follow-up. (For the full program, please enroll in AIM at www.athensinstitute.org.)

Series A (Biblical Training) includes 13 courses: NT Survey, NT Interpretation, Homiletics: Preaching & Teaching, Apologetics, Holy Spirit, Minister's Spiritual Life, OT Survey, OT Interpretation, Counseling & Psychology, Church History, World Religions & Church Doctrines, Marriage & Parenting. **Series B (Ministry Training)** includes 7 courses: Leadership Roles, Missionary Faith--Africa, Church Building--China, Music/Worship, Campus Ministry, Race Issues, and more.

You can buy each unit (5 or 10 hours) separately. In addition, various combination packages can also be purchased:

* **Comprehensive Bible Study** (Two survey courses and two interpretation courses. See the Bible come to life as you become familiar with its history, geography, language, and healthy methods of interpretation. You won't be bored any more!) 40 hours.

* **2000 Years of Church History** (plus the Crossroads Movement, with Chuck Lucas, and an analysis of the "tsunami" of 2003). "Those who forget the lessons of [church] history are doomed to repeat them." 15 hours.

* **Counseling & Psychology**, with Drs. Mike & Mary Shapiro, David McNulty, Douglas Jacoby, Joseph Harris & Steve Brand. 15 hours. *Note: 50% discount on this series for current AIM students. (Send an email to request.)*

Take AIM! is the latest release of Illumination Publishers International, in conjunction with the *Athens Institute of Ministry*.

UNTIL JULY...

Remember, the website (<http://www.douglasjacoby.com/>) has new material **every day**. I hope you will use it as a resource for your own study, teaching, evangelism, and exploration of the world around us. Also, if you are in a position to help the ministry financially, ideas will be found at the end of this update. Your gifts really do make a difference.

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

- DJ

BECOME A MONTHLY SUPPORTER

Please, if you believe in the international teaching ministry and would like to become a monthly supporter, send us an email. Be sure to indicate how much support you are able to provide each month: for example, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, etc. Any amount is fine. Once we establish contact, you will provide the relevant financial information. (For US residents, a tax receipt will be sent annually.)

ATHENS INSTITUTE OF MINISTRY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Total need: \$106,105

Received in 2007: \$34,000

The Athens Institute of Ministry was established in January 2004 to train preachers, teachers, and serious Bible students. Biblical education is a deep need, and it is also the area in which I feel most called to serve. Sessions take place in Georgia, San Diego, London, Manila, and Lagos, or at long distance by DVD. Please see the download document at the website for full details. We are eager to offer scholarships to worthy students in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe. Your donations help students to participate who otherwise would not be able to afford the tuition. We want to extend scholarship offers and assistance to as many students as possible. Currently AIM has some 150 scholarship students in 25 nations, and most of them need ongoing sponsorship. Our eventual hope is to support the principal AIM teachers on a part-time basis. For more on the details of AIM, read the download document at this website, or click on <http://www.athensinstitute.org/>. **AIM is a tax-exempt entity with 501(c)(3) status. All contributions are tax-deductible.**

The Athens Institute of Ministry admits students of any race, color, national, or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities made available to students of A.I.M. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in admissions policies, scholarships, or other programs.

THIRD WORLD TRAVEL FUND

Total need: \$31,348

Received in 2007: \$14,200

Currently I make teaching visits to 25-40 cities a year, about half in the US and half outside. Other teachers are also sent to areas of special need. Funding is needed to cover airfare and reasonable speaking fees for third world visits, and in some cases accommodation and meals, when not provided by the local church. **IBTM is a tax-exempt entity with 501(c)(3) status. All contributions made to IBTM are tax-deductible.**

GENERAL MINISTRY SUPPORT

Total need: \$37,170

Received in 2007: \$26,320

General support donations help to compensate IBTM's international teachers for research, developing new materials, and speaking in the developing world. This is also the category to contribute to if you are not sure, or do not have a strong opinion, about how your donation should be spent. **IBTM is a tax-exempt entity with 501(c)(3) status. All contributions made to IBTM are tax-deductible.**

THIRD WORLD BOOK FUND

Total need: \$10,000

Received in 2006: \$2570

In the majority of developing nations around the world, monthly salaries are in the range of \$30-\$300. Books, which typically cost \$10 or more, are an exorbitant expense for persons living in such economic situations. Helping Christians and churches through biblical education can make a tremendous difference, building faith and expanding the horizons of readers. The Third World Book Fund is not only for books, but also for audio messages. Free books and audio are distributed not only to individuals, but also to church libraries. **IBTM is a tax-exempt entity with 501(c)(3) status. All contributions made to IBTM are tax-deductible.**