

International Teaching Ministry of Douglas Jacoby



International Bible Teaching Ministry Update 2008 Issue 11 Short Surveys, Cambodia, Vietnam

"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."

Dear All,

Warm greetings from Atlanta to all of our friends and supporters! The [International Apologetics Seminar](#) begins next week in Chicago. The seminar theme is *World Religions*; I will teach on *Jesus & Islam*, and preach a sermon on *Do All Roads Lead to God?* But for me the most exciting part will be the "tribute" (three-way debate) with Shabir Ally (Islam) and Shmuley Boteach (Judaism) on *What is the True Legacy of Abraham?* The entire conference will be recorded, and the debate will be available in DVD format. Though I've done my research (read three of Boteach's books, listened to debates online, and re-read the entire Qur'an), I'd appreciate your prayers as I finalize preparations. Pray that the Lord will use this debate for good, to build respect and connection, so that the gospel may be advanced. Thanks for your faith in the teaching ministry, and may the Lord encourage you through the bulletin.

Your brother,
Douglas

Early Church History Seminar...

What did the early church really teach? How did they live? And just how far have we drifted from the faith of the early church? Did you know that tens of thousands of pages have survived the centuries, recording the thoughts and faith of our early brothers and sisters? Would you like to learn more?

On 19-21 September (Friday night to Sunday morning) we will hold an Early Church History weekend here in the Atlanta area. Our guest speaker is David Bercot; other speakers include Steve Staten, Joey Harris, and Douglas Jacoby. David has been a friend and mentor to me since 1995. His expertise is *Patristics*, the study of the Church Fathers, those who lived their faith, often died for it, and fortunately (for us) wrote about it, from the late first to the early fourth century. Bercot makes history come alive, and never fails to stretch the mind and challenge the heart. (This is also the 2008 Continuing AIM event, for *all* current AIM students and graduates.)

...and Survey

Many have expressed their intention to attend, but we need some numbers in order to plan and finance the seminar. The cost should be between \$100 and \$200. The more who commit to come, the lower the cost. (Note: spouse rate 50%, and full-time student rate 50%.) As soon as we have the results of the interest survey, we will know the price. Please click [HERE](#) so that we may know how many to expect, as well as to suggest topics you'd like addressed. (The survey will take you less than 30 seconds.) Your answer must be entered by 4 June in order to be tabulated.

2009 Biblical Study Tour Survey

Every year the International Bible Teaching Ministry hosts a biblical study tour. As you know, our 2008 event is in Egypt, Israel, and Jordan, and is just seven weeks away. As we prepare for 2009, we'd like to ask you to take a one-question survey, which will help us determine next year's location. (This survey will take less than 60 seconds.) Your answer must be entered by 4 June in order to be included. Please click [HERE](#) to state your preference.



Feedback from Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Last month I returned to Cambodia, after my initial visit to Phnom Penh, the Sihanouk Hospital, and the Killing Fields in 2000. How the city has changed! Before it was all bicycles and motorbikes; now cars are everywhere. The nation continues to rebound from the devastating genocide of 1974-77, and the spirit of forgiveness among followers of Christ is truly heart-warming. The hospital has tripled in size, and is doing an amazing job training Cambodian doctors and medical staff. (Of the approximately 350 hospital workers, 90% are now Khmer!) The hospital is the premier medical institution in the nation, and within 2 years will have treated over 1 million Cambodians (one seventh of the population). This means that nearly every family will have visited the Sihanouk Hospital or had a family member visit it. The church has every right to be proud. I certainly feel this way!

Cambodian Christians wrote: "Thank you again for encouraging the Phnom Penh church. From swimming against the current, to looking at the big picture of Revelation, to the principles of parenting, the lessons you taught inspired us to hunger more for the Word of God. We are also very grateful for all the books you donated. You've given a lot to the church and we can't wait to share with the people of Cambodia the many lessons we've learned from our time together. We look forward to your next visit. We want you to know that we are going forward in translating the book you and your wife wrote, *Parenting in a Non-Christian World*, into our Khmer language."



Feedback from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Last month I was privileged to spend a couple of days in Vietnam. It was nothing like what I'd expected. Such a modern, bustling metropolis, it reminded me of many cities in Europe. The church was phenomenally dedicated: not one person missed our teaching day, and all seemed genuinely eager to learn. The leaders comprise Hung and Hong, whose faces are easily recognizable to most Vietnamese, as their previous career was acting. (They are on television nearly every day!) Of course the food was out of this world -- but then that's not why I visited there, was it? Topics were "What Happens After Death" and "Genesis & Creation." -- DJ

Vietnamese Christians wrote: "It was great to see you in Ho Chi Minh City. Thank you so much for your visit. The classes inspire me to want to study the Bible more -- to be a real student of the Bible. On behalf of the Vietnam church, we would like to say thank you very much for your loving heart to us. We appreciated your giving us a chance to study deeper in the Bible for our faith. It's had a great impact for all members. We are still talking about what you taught for us. It is great to know you and to learn from your knowledge in the books and at the website. We love you very much, and looking for a next chance to study from you."

Newsletters

This year the newsletters, on average two sent out each month, have covered:

1. Sierra Leone, West Africa
2. Reykjavik, Iceland
3. Baltics (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania)
4. Launching of Eurasian Bible School (Russian language)
5. Minsk, Belarus (underground church)
6. Jesus & Jihad (U. of Georgia), Campus & Teen evangelism, new Take AIM! DVD sets
7. Report from the High Andes (Bolivia)
8. Vietnam and Chile
9. Mexico City Webcast, Malaysia, Early Church History Seminar with David Bercot
10. Scandinavia, Filipino AIM Graduation, Daily Bible Studies

All of these, as well as bulletins from previous years, may be viewed [here](#). And don't forget, every day there is new material at the website. (See esp. the *What's New?* section and the daily Bible Studies.)

Recommended Reading

There is a new feature at the website, Recommended Reading. Hundreds of thousands of books have been written on the Bible, leadership, church history, evidences, family, etc. So how can we distinguish the bad from the good, and the better from the best? A tab links you to some of the best books related to Christianity and the Bible. For example, nearly all the books in the AIM bibliography are found here. Check it out -- click [here](#).