

International Teaching Ministry of Douglas Jacoby



International Bible Teaching Ministry Update 2008 Issue 18

**NEW MINISTRY TO THOSE WITH SAME-GENDER ATTRACTIONS,
LAKOUSSAN UPDATE, CREATION DEBATE REPORT**

"Challenging men and women of faith to think"

All newsletters are available [here](#). 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."

2 November 2008

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Thanks for all your prayers for the international teaching ministry. God has answered many of them since the last bulletin: a fabulous AIM Early Church History Weekend with David Bercot (DVDs ready soon); encouraging visits to Croatia and the International Leadership Conference in Kiev (a real fellowship feast!); a successful Children's Ministry workshop; my third debate, detailed below (the fourth is on 11 November); signing a contract with Harvest House Publishers, after praying all last year for a publishing breakthrough; and preparations for our upcoming AIM session here in Georgia, with numerous guest speakers.

At the same time, we solicit special prayers for my wife's health. On 13 October Vicki suddenly lost her hearing, balance (with nausea), and sense of taste and smell. Her vision was affected too, as well as her ability to process (esp. multitasking). At the time of the episode she was driving back from Athens to Atlanta—while I was landing at JFK from the conference in Kiev. Because she couldn't focus enough to continue her drive home, she pulled over and called for help. A kind brother and sister took her in, then took her home. She was given anti-nausea medication (so she could eat), antibiotics, steroids, etc. She's still on 40mg of steroids a day, and though the sense of taste and smell is returning, and vision has improved, Vicki is still deaf in one ear and experiencing sensory overload (sounds, images, public meetings). She also resigned her part-time job, since it is so difficult to work or use a computer now.

Despite three weeks of medical input from our primary care physician and specialists, plus an MRI (which was negative), the doctors do not know what it is wrong with Vicki. If you could say a prayer for her—especially that she may regain her hearing—we would be grateful.

The current bulletin includes a report on my debate last week with Michael Shermer, the visit to Croatia, the latest on a special sister in French West Africa many of us have kept in prayer for nearly two years, and a new ministry to the same-gender attracted.

Finally, thanks also to the several brothers and sisters who responded to the last update and became monthly sponsors of the ministry.

Your brother,
Douglas

<http://www.douglasjacoby.com/>

NEW MINISTRY TO THOSE WITH SAME-GENDER ATTRACTIONS

Do you have a friend who is homosexual? Do you have a beloved family member who is gay or lesbian? Have you ever wondered what is safe, and helpful, to say to someone you care to help, yet find yourself only frustrated, lost for the right words?

As a parent, do you know what you should be doing that can significantly lessen the likelihood that

your child will ever be involved in homosexuality? Do you personally come from a homosexual past, but as a Christian still live with sexual identity issues, and find yourself still attracted to the same sex? **Strength in Weakness Ministries** is here to help!



This ministry was founded by both Guy Hammond, who is a Canadian Evangelist, and Kris Boyer, a devoted Christian brother in the Minneapolis-St. Paul church of Christ. Both Guy and Kris have a homosexual past, but, by the grace of God, both have found tremendous amounts of healing and victory. They desire to share their journey and their experiences with other Christians from around the world who are seeking direction and encouragement in this largely "unmet" area of ministry. They also hope to help educate church leaders and members everywhere on how best to offer practical help to brothers and sisters in unwanted same-gender attractions, in a manner that is respectful, dignified, and compassionate. Go to www.strengthinweakness.org to begin learning how you can help others, protect your family, and even receive Christ-centered direction for your own life.

UPDATE ON BEÁBYLIE LAKOUSSAN



Nearly two years ago, I relayed an urgent need. For those unfamiliar with the specific situation, I received the following note after one of my visits to West Africa:

'My name is Béabylie Lakoussan. I live in Cotonou, the capital city of Benin. I have been suffering from osteonecrosis for eight years. This disease attacks and gnaws away at my bones. I walk with great difficulty, and it is nearly impossible to move my legs. All attempts at medical intervention have been ineffective. Radiology results show that my disease is at an advanced level. The estimated cost of an operation is 12 million Central African Francs (about \$24,000). This is an astronomical amount here in West Africa, about 40 times my annual salary...'

Many of you responded and as a result – *finally!* – our sister has had her final operation. God answers prayer, and you may well have saved her life, and certainly her legs and ability to walk. Deepest thanks from Béabylie, the church in Cotonou, and the international teaching ministry!

CREATION DEBATE A SMASHING SUCCESS! by Jeff Chacon (Tampa), 10/29/08

The large ballroom at the University of Florida was buzzing with excitement and packed to overflowing Monday night as over 1200 participants watched our own Dr. Douglas Jacoby debate the renowned skeptic Dr. Michael Shermer, publisher of *Skeptic Magazine* and columnist for *Scientific American*, on the subject: *Science, Man, God: A Creationism vs. Evolution Debate*. The debate was hosted by ACCENT, the largest student-run speakers' bureau in the nation, which takes pride in featuring such world class speakers as five former American presidents and the former president of Russia, Mikhail Gorbachev.

For the rest of the article, click [here](#).

