

# International Teaching Ministry of Douglas Jacoby



## International Bible Teaching Ministry Update

2009 Issue 4

ROME 2009, AIM VI: COUNSELING, GUYANA

"Challenging men and women of faith to think"

All newsletters available [here](#). Enjoying updates and the website? Please spread the word. (If not, click [REMOVE](#).) Email address changed? Please send new *and* old addresses, so we can delete the old. The [main website](#) contains over 8000 pages of Christian resources, the [second website](#) 400 more.

17 March 2009  
St. Patrick's Day

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I've just returned from an amazing trip to South America. Five nations and loads of good news! For example, at one of the universities, guests were at least 80% of the audience! In one church, I sat down after my sermon and asked my friend, "How many people today are visiting the church (non-members)?" He replied, "Over half." It is good *for me* to see the brothers and sisters so clear about their mission. Many are seeking God in this part of the world. In one of the airports, I received a Facebook message reminding me to keep reaching out. As this was on the return home, I felt fatigue (as I often do after a long trip -- entering a semi-vegetative state). As I was being searched in security, I took the brother's suggestion to heart, and reached out to two of the guards, remembering that even when tired, Jesus kept giving. (Thanks for the challenge!)

For me, the cities on the tour yielded not only many precious moments of fellowship, but also a chance to practice my Spanish. (Ellos quienes me escucharon saben que es feo, aunque yo trato mejorar la lenguaje.) There is so much good news, that in the next few issues you will find a series of short reports, beginning today with Guyana, the only English-speaking nation in South America.

Lately it seems the demand for creativity is high. I continue to record the weekly O.T. podcasts. Over a dozen have already been produced, the latest of which is *Rachel & Leah*. (Please consider [subscribing](#) if you haven't already.) Tomorrow I will teach on Moses in our local congregation, the North River Church of Christ (Marietta, Georgia). And on Friday we will host our next group Bible study. The topic: "Medical Ethics" (stem cell research, euthanasia, cloning, etc). It is easy to invite outsiders (Christians, Jews, Muslims, non-believers, seekers...) to our home for desserts, Bible study and discussion. Last month's group was very animated as we discussed "Crime and Punishment." Then on Sunday evening I fly to one of the most beautiful countries in the world, Norway (Oslo and Bergen), before teaching in the Spring session of the European Bible School in Stockholm.

In a few days my latest book, *Jesus and Islam*, will be ready to ship. I've worked hard on this over the last year or so, and am both excited about the material and eager to see how the challenges to the reader are received. Newsletter 5 will let you know once the new book is ready.

The rest of this bulletin includes the report from Guyana; information on a few upcoming learning opportunities; and last, a short article on St. Patrick's Day. (Yes, I'm one-eighth Irish, to be sure -- does that qualify me?)

With appreciation for your prayers and support,

**Douglas**

[www.douglasjacoby.com](http://www.douglasjacoby.com)

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## COMING TO ROME?

October 25-31: Rome & Pompeii (pre- and post-tours to Florence, Pisa, Naples, Capri)

Are you planning to join us for the annual Biblical Study Tour later this year? The sign-up deadline is May 1. (After this, the price goes increases.) If you're planning to come and haven't at least sent in a deposit, please let us know now by [email](#), so that we will know your intention. And if you aren't familiar with the details of this exciting tour, just [CLICK](#).

## REPORT FROM GUYANA (SOUTH AMERICA)

4-5 March, Georgetown, Guyana

*For several years I had hoped to make it down to **Guyana**, one of the 13 nations in continental South America. The preacher in Georgetown began corresponding with me several years ago, and in 2007 we began working toward a possible trip. It was just a matter of finding the funding. In June 2008, confident that financial support would come in (it did), I booked the tickets.*

*Georgetown was the first stop on my March tour. A fire had gutted the church office and library, and after that, adding to the challenge, a flood soaked the building. (Guyana's sea walls are not very high.) I delivered as many books, CDs, and DVDs as I could carry. The teaching ministry donated over \$2000 of materials, nearly half of which has already been funded by donations from concerned Christians around the world. (Yes, there is still time to donate; just send an email.) The church was thrilled by all the gifts, and I enjoyed the fellowship meals with many faithful brothers and sisters. For me the visit to Guyana, a place well off the beaten track, was a reminder of how good it is to have friends close by (Proverbs 27:10). I should never take my local relationships for granted.*

*The following paragraphs are from a few of the leaders in the Georgetown congregation.*



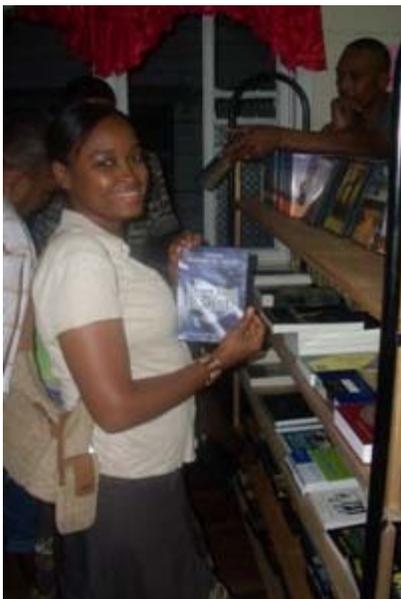
(1) "Hello, Douglas,

"I am glad you reached Trinidad safely, and enjoyed your fellowship with the brothers there. I guess they were as excited as we were to chat with you. We are looking forward to learning from your websites and newsletters.

"Your visit was most welcome and heartwarming. We were uplifted, inspired. You brought us so many books and other materials for our library! My wife is reading the book on parenting. She called me (all excited) this morning, just to say how thrilled she is by the spiritual insights you and your wife shared with us. But what makes for even better reading is to be able to put a face to the author, to imagine your voice as I read through the pages. For some time now, the church has been starved of teaching materials about parenting, marriage, leadership, and so on. Now we have access to the teachings of a brother we can relate to. Sure, I've looked at other Christian websites, but not with the same enthusiasm as I will with yours!

"It was good to drive you to and from the airport, and show you around. I am always willing to serve a brother! Just glad to be able to serve in some way.

"Take care and God bless! -- N.M."



(2) "As we studied Galatians 5, we learned that there are only two basic lifestyles, life in the flesh and life in the Spirit. This was new and valuable material for many of us..."

"The church was also encouraged by the donation of ministry materials to replenish its library, which was destroyed by fire in January 2005. We have been waiting four years for this moment! The Georgetown Church of Christ thanks God for such an inspiring time..." -- S.B"

(3) "Greetings, Brother,

"I would like to say thank you for being here and spending time with us. It was definitely refreshing for us, and I know that the whole church is excited and encouraged. We especially enjoyed your lesson on Love, particularly the part about prioritizing relationships (God, spouse, children, church, outsiders). This helped the marrieds wonderfully, as the past two years that ministry has gone through some hard times. The examples you used hit the nail on the head!

"Personally, I feel a deeper desire to be a better student of the Bible. I want to be a better preacher, teacher, and counselor for my family, church, and the lost. We also look forward to receiving your newsletters, so we can keep in tune with what is happening in other nations around the world. If it is God's will, I hope to see you in Colorado at the ILC. Thanks again, and may the Lord continue to bless you and your family. -- R.J."

## AIM SESSION: COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGY

May 15-17, Marietta, Georgia

Hosted by the North River Church of Christ.

Classes cover such vital topics as setting boundaries, recognizing different temperaments, the positive side of

psychology and psychiatry, men vs. women, family systems, principles of mental health, processing death and loss, children and family issues, psychological issues in leadership, challenges facing women on staff (present or past), overcoming depression, and much more! Speakers include Drs. Michael and Mary Shapiro, Melanie Cicerchia, Douglas and Vicki Jacoby, Joseph Harris, Sam and Geri Laing, and Don Burroughs.

The session is open to all, both full track students and open track students (auditors). Click [HERE](#) for more.

## INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS' SEMINAR

### Gospel Solutions to Prejudice and Separation

### August 14-16, Atlanta

(Repeated from previous newsletter)

This year's seminar, which is being coordinated by Chicago's Steve Staten, will take place on the grounds of the North River Church of Christ. All are welcome (even those who aren't teachers). It's going to be hot! [CLICK](#) for details.

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY

If you're interested in Patrick and origins of the celebration of March 17th as his special day, you may enjoy the following [ARTICLE](#). It is about a page in length. Prepare for some surprises! (For example, Patrick wasn't Irish! Or even really a Catholic.) Honor this true man of faith; read about his inspiring life!

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