

International Teaching Ministry of Douglas Jacoby



International Bible Teaching Ministry Update 2010 Issue 2 -- Central America, Compelling Evidence

"Challenging men and women of faith to think"

All newsletters available at the main website, douglasjacoby.com. This website contains over 8000 pages of (free) material. The second (subscription) website contains advanced N.T. studies as well as weekly O.T. podcasts. That address is jacobypremium.com.

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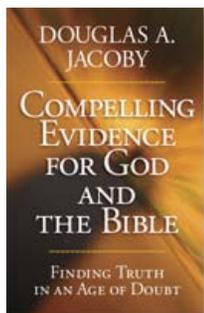
Dear Friends and Supporters,

Greetings from Atlanta. This is the second monthly update of the new year, and I hope it provides something to encourage your faith. I've just returned from an enormously encouraging trip to Latin America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Mexico). Before I recount that adventure, however, I'd like to tell you about my new book.

Compelling Evidence

Compelling Evidence for God & the Bible was published this week. This is an evidences book intended to strengthen the faith of believers, and has also especially been designed for unbelievers so that they may come to faith. In its previous (and quite different) incarnation, this was *True & Reasonable* (1988). Tens of thousands of copies of *T&R* were printed and translated into many languages. The new version has much more depth and personal sharing, and I attribute most of the changes to all those who have given me input and helped me develop my evidences material over the past 20 years or so. Of the twenty-odd books I've authored, I suspect that this one is the magnum opus.

You can order [here](#), and even read read chapter 1 online if you wish. I am hoping that *Compelling Evidence* will have a major impact, and ask you to say a prayer for its success, too.



Latin America

Costa Rica

Last week I flew from Atlanta non-stop to San Jose, Costa Rica's capital. One of the persons meeting me in the airport made me smile. I walked right past her, but she didn't recognize me. She admitted afterwards that she was looking for "an American with a pot belly." (I was quite happy to disappoint her.) In Costa Rica (besides strolling through a rain forest on the way to seeing a volcano, trying to improve my Spanish, and enjoying fellowship with friends) I spoke two evenings on *The Holy Spirit*. We covered everything from the Trinity to "tongues" to demon possession. Also I was able to give away over 100 free books. (This is normal when visiting the developing world, and is because of the generosity of those who donate to the Third World Book Fund. Thanks!)

The gratitude and enthusiasm of the church were palpable. In fact, the energy level in the meeting hall was so high that my Bible was literally vibrating (from the amplification of the band music & singing). My wife hopes to accompany me on the next visit to Costa Rica. Special thanks to Jose Luis and Elizabeth Estrada for their hospitality.

El Salvador

A few days later I was in El Salvador. The fellowship was so warm, I couldn't even count the kisses I gave and received. Central American leaders converged on the city of San Salvador from Nicaragua, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, and even Chile. The lessons on *A Church that Shines*, *Legalism & Grace*, and *Bible Study* were well received by hundreds who had driven as far as 8 hours to take part in the special weekend. The weekend also marked the christening of San Salvador's new church building.

On Sunday I preached on *Heroes of the Faith*, emphasizing that true biblical heroism, as in Hebrews 11-12, involves patience even in the absence of immediate victory. An important lesson for us all. Special thanks to Josue and Veronica Ortega for taking such good care of me. I was also very encouraged to see how much this beautiful country has recovered from its bloody civil war (1971-1992). Most of all, my heart was touched by the degree of sacrifice Christian leaders are willing to make in order to grow spiritually and help others. (And so many new disciples!)



Mexico

The third and final stop was Mexico. I was swinging through Mexico City to visit a friend, yet was roped in to speaking to the church and also to a group of staff leaders. The first night's topic was *The Urgent Need for Apologetics* (click [here](#) for the lesson), and the next morning I addressed leaders from dozens of Mexican churches on the theme of *Parenting*, which is the subject of our recently translated book, *La Aljaba* (which was *The Quiver* in English). Thousands watched the webcast. The Mexican ministries work in some 30 cities, and their *celo* and *espíritu* are as strikingly sincere as they are radical!

Moreover, dozens received diplomas after finishing the biblical training program of the Ezra Project, ably led by Arturo Elizarraras. We need more brothers like him, who are willing to train men and women ready to embrace the challenge of intensively studying the Word of God. The hunger for biblical training is great.

North America

Outside Latin America, first quarter travel includes Austin, Jacksonville, Miami, Orlando, and Vancouver. In Jacksonville I preached on the man at the pool (John 5). In Miami, mainly on *Advanced Old Testament Evidences*; in Orlando, mainly on *Learning from the Past*. The Florida churches are all eager to *learn from* and also to *heal from* the past, and deeply desire more expository teaching and challenges to walk nearer to the Lord. In Vancouver and Austin I'll lecture on archaeology -- such a colorful topic! My son will join me next week on the trip to Canada. It is his spring break, of his final semester at the University of Florida. It will be good to get some father-son time.

Even more podcasts!

Finally, the second (premium) website keeps growing, with 7 podcasts related to death and the end of the world recently recorded, as well as many other lessons. Two of the other topics include *Responding to Natural Disaster* and a *Christian Review of the Movie Avatar*. Today I recorded a podcast on *Tattoos & Piercings*. In future weeks look for lessons on *Vampires*, *Euthanasia*, *Marijuana*, etc -- in fact over 50 podcasts in all in 2010. Available at jacobypremium.com. Even non-members have access to dozens of the written studies and podcasts.

Thank you!

Whether we remain in touch through the websites, FaceBook, YouTube, or Twitter, I do appreciate your prayers and support. (Please note that new supporters are always needed, so send an email if you are interested in sharing in this ministry in a more intimate way.)

Yours,

Douglas Jacoby
International Bible Teaching Ministry

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