

# International Teaching Ministry of Douglas Jacoby



## International Bible Teaching Ministry Update 11 December 2007 To Africa!, Israel 2008

### "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 the new and the old address, so it may be deleted. The website features new material every day. Look for Q&As, Articles, "Quote of the Day," and What's New?

Dear All,

The year is nearly over. The final 2007 newsletter of the International Teaching Ministry will go out a couple of days before Christmas. In the meantime, please let me share some personal news. After my letter, some details about the finances and also about the 2008 Biblical Study Tour -- to the Middle East!

At a recent conference a South American brother brought me some fantastic news. He'd given his father one of my books, in efforts to bring him to a biblical faith. 17 years later (!), his father got around to reading the book. (I know we are all tempted to procrastinate, but ....!) Convinced about the truth, a few months ago he repented and was baptized. Exhilarating to hear, and encouraging to the nth degree for me personally! "Cast your bread upon the waters..." Interesting how the Lord moves....

A few weeks ago I was returning from a west coast trip, and the fellow in the seat next to me was an impressive man in his 70s. A Jewish atheist biophysicist, he was eager to talk about life, about all he had seen and been through, and about his faith (or lack of it). We discussed morality, meaning, the problem of suffering (If there's a God, why does he allow \_\_\_\_?), and our personal lives. Although usually I try to be discreet on airplanes, I suspect several of our fellow passengers were listening in to the discussion (debate?) with interest. At the end of the flight I asked about how he was spending his retirement. "Oh, no, I'm still working. My new line is pretty engaging; I'm working in counter-terrorism." Please pray that I may continue to reach out to all the people the Lord puts in my path.

Next year, thanks to the Apologetics Research Society, who arranged my 2007 debate with Michael Shermer (historian of science, skeptic, agnostic, and *Scientific American* columnist), I will be able to represent Christianity in a three-way debate/dialog/discussion with a Jewish rabbi and a Muslim imam. This will take place in June, in Chicago. What a great opportunity!

In 2008 we are launching a leadership/Bible training program in Russian. I will make four week-long visits to Kiev, the capital city of the Ukraine, which will serve as the center. Christian men and women will converge from Russia, Belarus, Moldova, the Ukraine, and anywhere else where Russian is commonly spoken. (Thank you, Shawn Wooten and the Ukrainian brothers who are making this possible!)

Last, in an hour or so I leave for West Africa with my colleague in teaching, Joey Harris. We will minister in Senegal, Cote D'Ivoire, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Ghana. Your prayers for a safe, successful, and spiritual trip are much appreciated. (Thanks, Cornerstone, North River, Stone Mountain, and other congregations who are making this possible!) Please pray that through this ministry believers will be built up, the lost will be reached, and God glorified.

Your brother,  
Douglas

(PS: Scroll down for p.2 of this newsletter.)

## End-of Year Donations

I want to thank all my supporters for your donations in 2007. The needs of the Third World Book Fund and General Ministry Support were met almost exactly. The costs of the Third World Travel Fund were largely met, thanks to the North River Church of Christ, where our family worships. Cornerstone Church of Christ and two other congregations in the Atlanta area are sending Joey Harris and me to Africa. About 50% of our AIM Third World Scholarship needs were met this year. As this area of the ministry is still underfunded, help is still needed. In addition, a half dozen persons became monthly supporters. (You know who you are, and once again this is incredibly helpful.) Anyone wishing to donate at the end of the year to AIM or IBTM, please do so at the website, or just send an email. (For US residents, this is tax deductible.)

## CHANCE OF A LIFETIME! 2008 Biblical Study Tour

Our 2008 adventure will take place in three countries:

- July 17-20 -- 14th Annual International Teachers' Seminar, Egypt. 10 hours of classes and workshops, worship with Cairo Christians, cruise on Nile, visit pyramids, and more! After Sunday church we will drive through the Sinai and into Israel through the desert and Dead Sea area, arriving for our 8 pm dinner with the Biblical Study Tour group in Tiberias (Galilee). All are welcome to this seminar, which will include much more teaching and discussion than the Biblical Study Tour in Israel.
- July 20-26 -- Biblical Study Tour in Israel (2 days in Galilee, 4 days in Jerusalem). Includes most or all of the following: prayer in Garden of Gethsemane, visit to Herodion (recently discovered tomb of Herod the Great), Bethlehem, Mount of Olives, Hezekiah's Tunnel, Pool of Siloam, Warren's Shaft, Western Wall Tunnel, Temple Mount, Holy Sepulchre, Israel Museum/Dead Sea Scrolls, Armageddon, Dan, Maritime Caesarea, Hazor, Beth Shean, Qumran/Dead Sea Caves, Capernaum, Bethsaida, Sea of Galilee, Bethsaida, Masada, and more! Watch the Bible come alive! Good for couples, children old enough to appreciate Bible places, friends--anybody!
- July 26-28 (optional) -- Ein Gedi in Judean Desert, and Jordan: Mount Nebo, Petra. Stunning views and great fellowship.

Your faith will be strengthened. The fellowship will be invigorating. And your heart will fill with memories to last you the rest of your life. What better family Christmas present than a trip to the Holy Land? Prices are in \$US. Usually the Biblical Study Tour takes place in May or November. For 2008 we chose summer so that families would be able to attend, as well as those whose jobs do not permit them to take time off except in the summer. We will all stay in the same hotels for Cairo, Tiberias, and Jordan. A three-star option is available for Jerusalem only. (This hotel is not bad, and has an amazing view.) However, most of our reserved rooms are in the five star hotel. Single supplement is for those who prefer not to share a room. Prices include all meals, admissions, tours, tips, transport, airport transfers, border crossings, ITS travel from Cairo to Tiberias, etc. All you will need to bring with you is money for gifts. (Note: airfare is not included, though if we can arrange this -- we're still working on it -- we will let you know.)

Trip segment	EGYPT (Our base is Cairo)	ISRAEL (5* hotel in Jerusalem)	ISRAEL (3* hotel in Jerusalem)	JORDAN	TOTAL (all segments)
Nights	3	2-Galilee 4-Jerusalem	2-Galilee 4-Jerusalem	2	11
TOTAL (double occupancy)	500	950	690	360	1790 or 1530
Single supplement	180	340	160	130	650 or 470

## DEPOSITS DUE 20 FEBRUARY

- \$125 deposit for Egypt (ITS) only
- \$300 deposit for Israel only
- \$100 deposit for Jordan option
- \$400 deposit for Israel + Jordan
- \$425 deposit for Egypt + Israel (ITS+BST)
- \$525 deposit for Egypt + Israel + Jordan

At this time you can send your deposit or pay in full.

- Mail deposit check to Dr D A Jacoby, 2256 Rushmore Dr, Marietta GA 30062. For payment by credit card (Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Discover), please send me an email, and I will get back to you as soon as I can. For credit card, 2% I will add to cover processing charges.
- Pay in full. There will be a 10% discount if you pay in full by 20 January, and a 5% discount for paying in full by 5 February. Deposit(s) are required by 20th Feb, non-refundable. Full payment required by 15 April. (Extra charge for late payment -- details will appear later at website.)

Any questions, email me. Since I leave for Africa today, I'll get back to you as soon as possible!