



# INTERNATIONAL UPDATE

March 28, 2007

The *On Target Ministry* eNewsletter

*Serving God through International Education*

Dr. Jim Bearss, President

Dear Friends,

**HAITI REPORT:** What an amazing ministry trip we had to Haiti! God was glorified in six days of Leadership Training as I taught 200+ Haitian national pastors the doctrine of the church. Our focus on God's standard for a church was well-received and greatly appreciated by the pastors. Many expressed thanks every day for the spiritual truths they were learning from God's Word.

The leaders of the church association spoke with me at length about the feasibility of establishing the Haiti Bible Institute in Port au Prince. They are seriously interested in having a place where the Word of God is taught clearly and authoritatively. After the week of ministry there, the group extended an open invitation to me to return as often as possible and continue teaching them.

The Bible Institute model would be perfect for the continued education of these faithful pastors. The greatest concern these men have is to limit the spread of false doctrines that are so prevalent in the churches in Haiti. One pastor told me that some churches are no better than a "Christianized" form of Voodoo.

The hunger for sound doctrinal teaching is real and intense. To illustrate, the pastors were told that we had only enough room and money to support a seminar of about 75 pastors. But so many more wanted to come! The men agreed that the spiritual food was far more important than rice and beans, so they agreed to cut down on meal provisions so more pastors could come. So, instead of a full meal each day, we had a small snack. One pastor commented, "The smallness of the noontime food was more than offset by the great feast in God's Word that we enjoyed every day!"

The pastors all signed a thank you note expressing their gratitude for each of you who send money specially marked for the Haitian Pastors. They were all genuinely appreciative of your generosity. We will highlight the "Thank You Note" with over 200 signatures on our missionary display table we use when ministering in churches.

After the teaching sessions each day, we had Question & Answer session. These men followed the teaching with thoughtful consideration; and as a result, asked great questions. Let me give you one example: After teaching on how we should not allow doubt to weaken our faith, one pastor asked, "I know we should not doubt, because doubt is a sin; but what is the difference between doubt and discouragement?" What an insightful question! How would you answer that question? \*

Overall, the trip was a great success. Thank you all for your prayers, and special thanks to you who contributed to the financial needs for this trip. If the Haiti Bible Institute is going to become a reality, there will have to be a great outpouring of financial support for the students. Pray about this! We are working on a new scholarship program for the Bible Institute that will enable you to give directly to the needs of one (or more) students that we enroll in the classes.

I am convinced that your investment in the lives of these faithful men will reap eternal dividends!

**ON TO ROMANIA:**

What are you planning on doing this Easter? I will be preaching in a local church in Romania! I will also be teaching a Bible course on the Life of Christ to dozens of Romanian national pastors April 6-16. Please keep these faithful Romanian pastors in prayer as God prepares them to learn His Word and carry out the ministry of the Gospel in Costanza, Romania. God supplied our need for the Haiti trip, now we are praying for God's supply to help the pastors in Romania.

**SUPPORT NEWS:**

Two new supporters join the Support Team! Our Support Team now numbers twenty-two individuals and three churches sending regular monthly support. Praise God for planting the Vision of 2 Timothy 2:2 Ministry in two more hearts!

If you would join our support team with a monthly commitment of \$30—that's just a dollar a day—you would be participating in making a significant impact for the cause of Christ worldwide! Also, your partnership on our Support Team would be a tremendous encouragement to Anna and me as well. Pray about it, and see how God would lead you in this grand adventure!

Striving to please an Audience of One!

*Dr. Jim & Anna Betsy Bearss*

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**\* So...What is the difference between doubt and discouragement?** *It would be good if you studied this question yourself! Hint: note the direction you take when doubting verses when discouraged. Helpful passages are 1 Samuel 30:1-6 and Matthew 14:22-31.*

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**Haiti student testimonies:**

*"God is so good for sending you to come teach us. I thank God everyday for this blessing."*

*"The seminar was just exactly what we needed. Now I am better prepared to lead my church in the way God wants it to go."*

*"Who could have imagined such a valuable series on the church? Dr. Bearss addressed the needs we have in Haiti from the Bible! We learned that the Bible is always relevant to our need. Truly the counsel of the Lord does stand forever and His thoughts to every generation."*

*"Now I no longer have to wonder what God wants from me as a pastor and from my church. God has told us His plan in Scripture. All I have to do is remember to as 'What does the Bible say?'"*

*"Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Please come back at least two times a year!"*

**ON TARGET MINISTRY 2007 Schedule!**

Apr 1 – Calvary Baptist Church of the Northwoods, Seeley, WI

Apr 6-16 – Ministry in Constanza, ROMANIA

Apr 22 – First Baptist Temple, Oshkosh, WI

June 10 – Meadowood Baptist Church, Madison, WI

June 24 – Rice Lake Baptist Church, Rice Lake, WI

July 1 – Wheelersburg Baptist Church, Wheelersburg, OH

Aug 6-13 – College and Career Camp in JAMAICA

Aug 15-29 – Fairview Baptist College in JAMAICA

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