

The European Crisis: What is God Doing?

Europe is in the midst of a five-fold crisis: economic, political, social, ecological, and religious. Looking at Europe today, one can easily lose hope! Crisis can be a threat, but it can also serve as a turning point for nations and the Church. What does the crisis look like today and what should our Christian response be? We will explore answers together and hear what God is doing in the midst of it all.

Evi Rodemann is passionate about seeing young Christian people find their kingdom role in this world and to live missional where they are and where God has called them. After high school she set off to study theology and missiology in the Netherlands to know God better and to understand more about how to live and share His Word in our world today. For a number of years she worked full-time, first in a church, and then for about 8 years in various countries outside of Europe. But, Europe has always remained her strongest passion— to see a young generation mobilised. Therefore, she left full-time ministry and went to work in an aluminum company to bring God’s Kingdom and along with this directs Mission-Net, a European youth mission congress and movement, under the EEA and the EEMA (www.mission-net.org). She also serves as the youth consultant for the European Evangelical Alliance.

I. Europe

A. General facts

B. How does God view Europe? Has he lost hope?

“If Europeans do not return to the life source which shaped their culture and society, the Bible, they will continue to spread ‘unbelief’ in various forms globally.” - Jeff Fountain

C. Definition of the word ‘crisis’

II. The five-fold crisis across Europe

A. Economic crisis

1. Changing philanthropy

B. Political crisis

C. Social crisis

D. Environmental crisis

E. Religious crisis

1. The church in crisis

III. The Christian response in summary

“Every 10 days, a church is planted!”

Suggested Readings:

Davie, G. (2002) *Europe-The Exceptional Case: Parameters of Faith in the Modern World Sarum Theological Lectures*, London: Orbis Books

Jenkins, P. (2009) *God's Continent: Christianity, Islam, and Europe's Religious Crisis*, New York, NY: Oxford University Press

Meroff, D. & Unger, J. (2011) *Europe: Restoring Hope*, Nürnberg: VTR Publications

Online Magazine: <http://europeanmission.redcliffe.org/vista-communicating-research-and-innovation/>