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Author

Nick Pease

Hebron Europe



Dear Praying Friends in Europe,

How Will Europe be Saved?

I have just returned from the leaders' conference of Europe Shall Be Saved (ESBS) in Eimeldingen, Germany. It was an inspiring time for many reasons, but above all because of the strong sense that God is building towards a big revival in Europe. Something bigger than anything we have ever seen, an awakening so dramatic that it will put to death the idea that Europe is the home of secularism and humanism. The faith of previous generations and previous centuries will burst through the thin layer of secularism and will sprout vigorous new growth, bringing 100 million Europeans into the Kingdom!

Europe is changing and Europeans are changing. They are more open to discussing spiritual matters now. They have been shaken by pandemic, war and economic difficulties and no longer feel comfortable, secure and without need of God. Some are exploring other religions and spiritualities; some are escaping into internet, games and addictions; but others are open to finding out about the living God and His Son Jesus Christ. So, they need to hear about Him.

At the ESBS conference I heard of encouraging developments in countries where I would not have expected it. For example, a pastor in Portugal filled a large stadium with believers for worship and prayer. And a French pastor told me that a new evangelical church opens every ten days in France! In other countries, believers are offering prayer for healing on the streets. We need to change our view of spiritual Europe and our expectations of what can happen here.



A little more about ESBS:

- The ESBS team are working to spread vision, encouragement and faith, that God is building towards a revival where 100 million Europeans will come to faith.
- They encourage individuals, churches and ministries to connect with others, to develop regional cooperation and vision.
- They are developing strategies to be as ready as possible for the harvest. Humanly it is not possible to fully prepare for the divine, but our eyes can be open and expectant and we should be taking whatever steps are possible.
- I encourage you to sign up for their news mailings and to bless them, europeshallbesaved.org

The ESBS conference was hosted by Awakening Europe (<u>awakeningeurope.com</u>). This is a partner ministry that organises large evangelistic campaigns. They have a vision to reach 1 million people with the gospel in 25 European cities in 2025! I believe this is the kind of scale at which God wants to work. Let us stand and pray with them!

So, what should we the praying people do? We need to support our brothers and sisters, the evangelists and church planters. We need to pray for them, like Moses, Aaron und Hur prayed for Joshua and the army (Exodus 17). Intercession and travailing prayer need to go before the evangelism campaigns, to break open the heavenly realms and prepare the ground for the harvest. I was very encouraged to speak with Sarah Breuel, executive director of Revive Europe reviveeurope.org, who is teaching Christian students to travail in prayer. Let us do the same! Lastly, does this encouraging picture conflict with what I wrote last month, about persecution and the need to stand firm in our faith? No, I believe the two things are complementary, they go together. We should expect glorious opportunities and also strong opposition. Those who stand firm will see the harvest!

Pray for:

- 1. The evangelists and church planters of Europe. Pray blessing, protection and fruitfulness on them.
- 2. The founder of ESBS, Jean-Luc Trachsel, and the leaders team. May they have great wisdom, perseverance and hear everything the Lord wants to say to them.
- 3. Spend time asking God for harvest time in Europe. We do not want it to be just a slogan, we want Europe to be SAVED!

Ukraine update:-

It is now two years since Russia launched its invasion in Ukraine. Many have been killed, both soldiers and civilians, and thousands more displaced by this unprovoked war. Fatigue has become more and more evident as the Ukrainian people long for peace, but recognise the need to fight for survival. Foreign leaders, while still mostly supporting Ukraine, are not supplying the promised arms and ammunition quickly enough, which hinders defence and is causing more loss of life and territory, according to Ukrainian officials.

Let us not become weary in praying - let us find new impetus from God's word to help us pray according to His will for an end to this war.

Further Prayer:-

- 1. Pray for the family of Alexei Navalny in their time of grieving as they seek to organise a fitting funeral for him.
- 2. Pray for a crucial vote in the UK Parliament which could decriminalise abortion right up to birth. Pray that MPs will see that this matter involves two lives, both of which should be protected from harm.

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