

Heading for Edinburgh 2010: Church Planting and Evangelism in Europe's Cities in the 21st Century

Handout for a lecture given at the European Conference of the ICRC
Soest (NL), November 4, 2008
Rev. David Robertson

Reading: Acts 16:1-10

1) Where are we?

How important is religion in your life? Britain 31%, Italy 27%, Germany 21%, France 11%, Poland 36%, Russia 14%, Czech Republic 11%.

Catholic -
Calvinist-
Charismatic –
Other –

2) How did we get here?

The Pre-Reformation Church
The Reformation and Enlightenment
National and International
Post Revolutionary decline
The Secular Century.

3) Where are we going?

Opportunities/Threats – Islam, Post-modernism, The New Atheism, New religions, Sexuality, materialism, mass-media, Christian chaos and confusion.

A Biblical Strategy –

To the cities first.
Freedom and diversity within a confessional unity.
Creative evangelism establishing Christian communities that transcend all man made barriers.
Preach, Pray, Sing and Live the Word.

Some specific proposals for 2010 –

- 1) A Church planting centre.
- 2) 100 new churches in Europe's cities by 2020.
- 3) Developing a European apologetic.
- 4) Uniting the body.

Suggested further reading:

Humble Apologetics – John Stackhouse
Modern Art and the death of a culture – Rookmaaker
Reformation – MacCulloch
The War of the World – Niall Ferguson
Operation World – 21st Century edition – Johnstone and Mandryk
Fishing in Utopia – Andrew Brown