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LOOKING @ EUROPE

LOOK BACK

TO WHAT GOD HAS DONE

- do we really understand that the story of Jesus is the greatest factor in shaping Europe's past?
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- do we suffer from short memories?
 - what understanding are we passing on to younger generations?
 - what if anything should we do differently?



LOOK FORWARD

to what God is yet to do

- **why should not the story of Jesus be the greatest factor in shaping Europe's future?**
- **do we suffer from short-sightedness concerning the future due to our short memories of God's actions?**
- **is our future vision based on a vague sense of 'going to heaven' or do we look forward, with the eager expectation of creation, to liberation into glorious freedom, the restoration of God's purposes?**



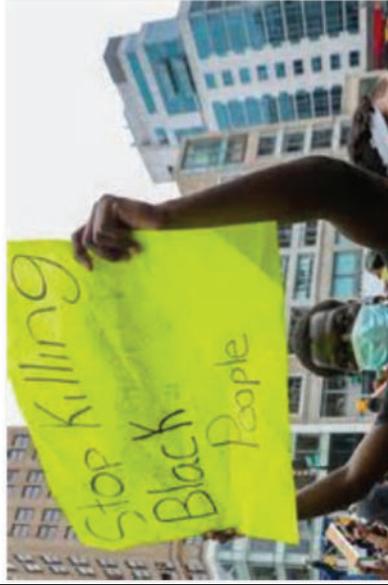
LOOK AROUND

AT A EUROPE IN CRISIS

Europe BC (Before Corona) was already in crisis:

- racial tension – Black lives matter!
- political tension– populism, democracy under threat
- economy & employment – inequality?
- ecology & environment
- religious tension – Islam, new spirituality, secularism
- COVID-19: crisis on top of crises!

- What opportunities do these challenges represent?
- are these crises shaping our mission?
- C.S. Lewis: God shouts to us in our pain – what is he saying??
- How should post-corona Europe look?



LOOK WITHIN

honest self-evaluation

- **where are the new Europeans in the EEA?**
- **COVID has made us ask: what is the Church?**
- **how missional is our church? or are we church-centred?**
- **are we clinging on to a Christendom mentality, or will we be creative, prophetic, hopeful minorities?**



LOOK BEYOND

DENOMINATIONS & NATIONS

- is our vision of the Body of Christ broad enough?
 - what contact do we have with those outside our own tradition?
 - how well do we listen? learn from others?
 - is nationalism distorting our kingdom vision?
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LOOK AGAIN

at what God is doing

- are we prepared to become cross-cultural missionaries in our own countries?
- is our response to muslims love or fear?
- spiritual seekers say the church is the last place they expect to encounter spirituality: would that be true of our church?
- What signs of God at work in Europe can we see?



LOOK UP

TO OUR GOD OF HOPE

- Do others see our congregation/movement as 'people of hope'?
- Where is our expectation, our trust, our confidence for the future? - in God? the government? our savings?...
- How is our faith evidenced?

