

VI.3 Conclusion

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Europe has been, for several decades, a mission field. The work of liberal theology, the social revolutions, the deadness of the state churches, the oppressive religious culture, all have combined to make it that way. Although not long ago a stalward for truth, the continent has become needy. Thankfully today many are responding to that need and taking the Gospel to places where theological indolence made it almost unnecessary.

The state churches are vitually abandoned except in Scandinavia...and even there they do not command the power they once did. The Roman church no longer has a stronghold grip in Spain and France...not even in Italy. And at the moment it is hard to tell how the work will go in the lands of eastern Europe that are now in the throes of liberation from communism. The Orthodox churches outside Greece have been reporting some growth and some revival. But the overall tone is not committed Christianity and it is likely there will be a growth of Islam and cults in the next few years. It is encouraging that some new schools are being developed but the need is enormous.

And that is where this course ends...just in the nick of time, so to speak.