

believed in him: *If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free* (John 8:31-32).

## Seeking the Kingdom in the midst of deadly beliefs

End of August, I attended in the French Alps a mini-conference of highly qualified French scientists (mostly Evangelicals, some Roman Catholics) preparing a large scale conference on the topic of Creation and Darwinism, as well as the relationship between science and the Bible. It is the first time in France that such a public event is organized (as I am writing, it is taking place today in the city of Mulhouse, bordering Switzerland; world famous American geneticist John Sanford is the guest speaker). No doubt there will be a host of negative reactions and sneering comments arising from the main stream media, calling these perfectly qualified scientists biased and not neutral in their approach, even though they unfold clear and honest evidence for the position they come in support of. It is hoped, though, that this conference will be followed by similar events in future, attracting a growing public (not just Christians). In addition to learning a number of amazing facts about God's creation (especially from the field of genetics and epi-genetics) I was impressed by the genuineness with which these scientists take the Word of God in their personal lives, seeking conformity of their thoughts to the thoughts of their Creator and Redeemer. Even though some were instructed in the Darwinian paradigm by their teachers, today they can unashamedly say (again with Ps 119, v. 99): *I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation.*

Reformed Faith and Life is privileged to have been approached by the steering committee of this group of scientists to serve as their theological adviser, providing apologetic tools where needed. During the August mini-conference, br. Claude Maugeais (current chairman of RFL-France) offered two articulate lectures on related topics. We expect to become more involved in future. The battle for the hearts is inescapably also a battle for the minds, as the apostle Paul reminds the Christians in Rome (12:2): *Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind...*

In the midst of all kinds of deadly beliefs leading to chaos and destruction, let our *light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven* (Matt. 5:16).

In His name,

*Rev Eric Kayayan*

John Calvin spoke of Creation as  
the "theater of God's glory"



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”

“ WHAT KIND OF MEDITATION  
ARE WE TALKING ABOUT? ”

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

To believe or not to  
believe, that is the  
question | 1

Seeking the King-  
dom in the midst of  
deadly beliefs | 2

## To believe or not to believe, that is the question

*Dear friends,*

Contemporary French culture is marked by a strong belief that there are two categories of people: those who "believe" (i.e. followers of an identified, visible and structured religious group, such as Christians, Muslims, Jews, etc.) and those who "do not believe" in anything (the latter likely to be identified with more rational and freethinking people). Both groups have the right and freedom "to believe" or "not to believe", since the French Republic guarantees them in the name of human rights. President Macron himself has repeatedly spoken of this right "to believe or not to believe" in his speeches.

Of course, to hold to this belief in the parallel existence of these two categories of people is a self defeating position, and a very blind one for that matter. The level of core beliefs in the attitudes and worldviews of secular people is just equal to their inability to perceive and account for them. Take for instance the latest trend in the French school system: introducing the practice of "meditation" among school kids, to help them reduce their stress and concentrate better on their tasks. What kind of meditation are we talking about here? Of course not the one practiced by the Psalmist (Ps 119:15): *I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.* For this kind of meditation belongs to those who "believe", while the one gradually enforced on French kids apparently does not... In our supposedly neutral and belief free school system meant to accommodate everybody, there is no space for lower forms of beliefs...

In the same trendy movement towards neutrality, (yet another so-called liberating "anti-belief" progress) the liberal agenda promoting gender neutrality is progressively erasing and destroying that which makes what the Creator made it to be in the beginning: a most magnificent art work where unity and diversity are celebrated in each and every parcel of the cosmos, mirroring the perfection of the Triune God – the "theater of God's glory" as John Calvin once put it. A perfection that we are compelled to see in and around ourselves, even in the midst of a fallen Creation with so much pain and distortions. Rather than restoring that which is broken, the above-mentioned agenda offers no other solution than destroying it fully: a race towards the abyss in the name of freedom... But hear what the Lord Jesus once said about the relationship between belief, truth and freedom to the Jews who had



The French school system is gradually introducing the practice of "meditation" among kids

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