

# Jacques Ellul & the Bible

An International Jacques Ellul Society Colloquium

Hosted by Regent College, Vancouver, British Columbia

**June 28 – 30, 2018**

Jacques Ellul (1912-94) is best known as one of the premier voices of the 20<sup>th</sup> century analyzing the emergence, characteristics, and challenges of the “technological society” --- the growing and seemingly irresistible dominance of technological tools, processes, and values over the whole of life and the whole of the world. But the Bordeaux sociologist simultaneously produced almost as many works of biblical study and reflection as sociology. In these studies Ellul delivered brilliantly creative insights as well as provocative challenges to traditional theology. All serious students of Ellul, whether part of faith communities like Ellul (in the French Reformed Church) or not (like his colleague and best friend Bernard Charbonneau), have found interaction with his theological writings an essential complement to the study of his great sociological works. This conference will seek a multi-perspectival hearing of Scripture stimulated by Ellul’s works.

The registration fee for this conference is US \$120 (if paid by April 30, 2018; \$30 late fee after April 30) or \$60 for full-time students and unemployed. The conference will take place on the campus of Regent College at the University of British Columbia. Registrants are responsible for their own transportation, meals (except for a Thursday evening banquet included as part of the conference), and housing (a list of local options will be provided at the online registration site). Check at [www.ellul.org](http://www.ellul.org) for the latest details on the conference and program.

## **Call for papers**

The conference committee welcomes paper proposals from multiple disciplines and perspectives with a critical focus on (1) specific biblical texts about which Ellul wrote (e.g., Ecclesiastes, Revelation, II Kings, Romans 9-11, Jonah) or (2) specific biblical topics about which Ellul wrote (e.g., the city, the work, money, prayer, incarnation, ethics, faith/hope/love). These are just examples and should not inhibit proposals on other topics related to Ellul and the Hebrew-Christian Scriptures. Our purpose is to understand Ellul in depth, to critically re-examine his perspectives, and to consider their relevance and application today.

We have room for up to twenty papers in our program. Presenters will have 20-25 minutes maximum and should prepare accordingly (roughly 1500 words). Fifteen minutes of discussion will follow each presentation. It is possible that selected papers may be revised and included in a published volume after the colloquium.

## **Proposal Deadline: October 1**

Potential presenters should, no later than October 1, 2017, submit a 100-200 word abstract of their paper topic and a brief 100-word professional bio to the program committee in care of David Gill ([dgill@ethixbiz.com](mailto:dgill@ethixbiz.com)). The program committee will reply no later than October 15, 2017.

*Conference Organizing Committee: David Gill, Jeff Greenman, Geri Forsberg, Albert Moritz, Ted Lewis*