

sue”. There will be many that will argue against the truth of the resurrection. Why? Because, if it is true, then it changes everything and becomes the “Biggest Issue” for every human being on the planet. Why? Because if you have Jesus you have life; if you don’t, you don’t have life at all.

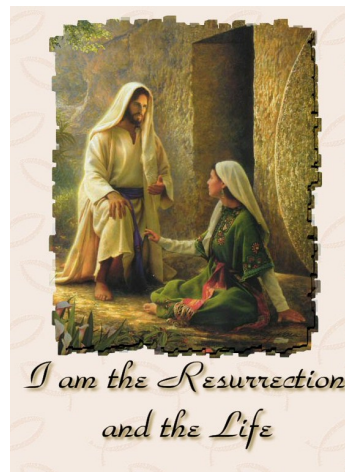
So what is the “Big Issue” for you? Is it your life, your future, your position with God? For Lee Strobel, a sceptic at the beginning, a journalist used to the hard cynical world in which we live, it became the “Big Issue”. The evidence turned him to Jesus Christ, as it has done for so many. Jesus changed Lee’s life. Why? Because Jesus is alive, because He was raised from the dead by His Father in Heaven. Jesus is the Son of God, He is the Lord.

For Jesus, the “Big Issue” was our souls. He came to save them, realising that even if someone gains the whole world but loses his own soul, it is of no value. The “Big Issues” of today are so we can save the world, or gain the world, wealth, riches, survival etc. But all are insignificant if we lose our souls. The real “Big Issue” is your soul. Come to Jesus, the resurrected Jesus who gives eternal life, real life. Believe on Him today and receive Him. Then you will belong to Jesus and He will be the “Best thing” in your life.

For those who have already received the Lord Jesus, there is the joy of



knowing that you belong to Him and have eternal life, and that in all the “Big Issues” that will arise in your life you have the Lord Jesus to lead and guide you. He will comfort you in all your difficulties, and direct you in the way you should take. Your life is now very important to Him, and He will make sure that, having started to work in your life, He will finish the work, because He loves you.



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THE REALLY BIG ISSUE?

HEALTH?

YOUR FUTURE ?

GLOBAL WARMING?

EDUCATION?

MONEY?



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THE BIG ISSUE? THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

Walk through most city centre shopping areas and you are likely to hear the cry “Big Issue, Big Issue”. Magazine sellers are about trying to raise money for their living expenses by selling the publication. The magazine is meant to address what are the issues of the day with articles looking at current affairs and political topics suggesting sometimes answers for those problems.

The current political “Big Issue” is climate change, “Global Warming”, environmentalists trying to save the planet, based, they believe, on evidence of the world warming up due to increased carbon emissions. Politicians have “Jumped on the Band Wagon” using “Climate change” as a political football, making it an excuse for many of the irrational policies they all promote. It can be seen in some ways as a good excuse to divert attention from what maybe are the real issues in the UK, of higher taxes, poorer services and the many, many personal crises that are part of peoples’ lives.

There is an increase in stress, depression, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, crime etc in our nation, with the subsequent damage to peoples’ lives. But important as these things are, perhaps they are not the real “Big Issue” we all have to face. The real big issue surely

is one of life and death. What is life all about? Who am I? What am I doing? Where am I going? Over the years many philosophers have looked at the problem without any real answers. Pop songs, and for that matter folk songs and classical music, pose the questions but don’t come up with the answers. “Money can’t buy me love” is true but the song does not tell us what does.

When Jesus Christ was on the earth He said that He had come to bring life. Not just natural life, a living body, but real spiritual life in the knowledge of God. That was His promise. He also said, “He was the Resurrection and the Life”, and therefore without His resurrection the life he promised does not exist. However, if Jesus did rise from the dead and is still alive, as Christians believe, then what He promised is the most important thing for us to look into. The Bible even states that “If Jesus did not rise from the dead, then our faith is in vain”.



The “Big Issue” therefore for all of us is, did Jesus Christ rise from the dead? The Bible says “It is

His resurrection that declares Him to be the Son of God”. No resurrection- no declaration- no faith- no hope— but the opposite if the resurrection is true.

This tract is too small to go deeply into all the issues around the “Big Issue”. If you really want to search, read a book called “The Case for Easter” by Lee Strobel (ISBN 0-310-25475-2). It only costs £1.99. But in the Bible Luke writes “that Jesus was seen alive by many infallible proofs”. Paul the apostle saw Jesus, and he makes a list of others who did, including over 500 at one time. In Paul’s day many were still alive, so Paul says “Go and ask them”. That Jesus existed is clear from non-Christian historians, as is the fact that He was crucified. There are many witnesses to His death. People came to the tomb where Jesus was laid and found it empty in spite of the guards and the large stone rolled against the door for security. There are therefore many witnesses to the empty tomb. We find that there are many witnesses to all the details of the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. In the Old Testament, David the King, in the Psalms, prophesies of the resurrection of the Messiah. He becomes a witness too, and before the event! Today, millions of Christians testify that Jesus Christ is alive and has changed their lives. Of course there are sceptics, there have to be as it is such a “Big Is-