

### **Wanting to be sure!**

Once one gets a reputation it can be so hard to change people's opinions. If someone gets known for gossiping, it won't be long before others are careful to tell them nothing of importance. If someone is known for being unreliable, well then, not relying on them to do what they promise, makes good sense.

Hopefully we might become known for our good cheer, or a willingness to help out those in need if we can.

If I was to speak the name of Thomas, a disciple of Jesus, I can guess what you might think. A good proportion of you would have had the word 'doubting' flit across your little grey cells! 'Doubting Thomas' has become a celebrity for all the wrong reasons. His feelings of uncertainty about the Resurrection of Jesus are too well known.

Does he warrant such a place in history. Certainly! His refusal to believe betrayed a lack of trust in the words of his friends, dozens of them! And yet, the sadder thing is that he is often only remembered for those doubts. Yet there was more to Thomas than meets the eye. He was a man who was willing to die for his boss, when trouble threatened (see John 11. 7-16). And when he finally meets the Risen Christ he is the first to identify Jesus as being on a par with the living God. He didn't need to actually touch the scars of the Cross as he had demanded. Instead at the sight of his friend he proclaims 'My Lord and my God'.

As we enter this Easter season two things are worth acknowledging. On a very down to earth level, let's not be too swift to judge others. Like Thomas there is probably more to them than we may know about. On another level entirely let's not allow doubts to stifle our trust in God or inhibit our prayers.

The experience of Thomas shows that doubt can be the way in to a deeper faith.

Never be afraid to air questions of faith.

Indeed if you need any help pondering the faith just text or email me your question, and I will try and help, if I can. (text 07480 113673 or email [aloweca@aol.com](mailto:aloweca@aol.com))).

Go well. Happy Resurrection Season!

