

Tuesday 27th July 2021

2 Chronicles 1: 10 *"Give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may lead this people, for who is able to govern this great people of yours?"*

Job 2: 11 *"When Job's three friends, Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite, heard about all his troubles that had come upon him, they set out from their homes and met together by agreement to go and sympathise with him and comfort him"*

John 20: 25 *"So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord!' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it.'"*

The wisdom of Solomon. Job's comforter. A doubting Thomas. The luck of the Devil. The fear of God. OMG. Many similar phrases are part of our everyday speech. How is it that so many of these phrases refer to biblical characters? Perhaps because when they entered our language the Bible was a standard book in the majority of households. The stories would have been familiar to many generations of children. With the decline of Bible knowledge the Lord's name has come to be used in vain.

Solomon who followed his father David as king of Judah was keen to keep hold of God's support in leading the Israelites. Job in his agonising about God sent disasters is offered help by well-meaning friends but who just make matters worse. Thomas refused to believe in the risen Lord until provided with irrefutable evidence.

Essentially all these individuals were God fearing but who were seeking reassurance and support for their belief. We should do the same even though we are separated by 2000 years from the momentous events of Jesus's ministry.