

The Shroud of Turin

*compiled by Rachel Cory-Kuehl
prophecyviewpoint.com
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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqassxHoyq8>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qKytXys t50>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QttVlxa0IRI>

1. The “crown of thorns” was actually a cap or helmet like construction (not a wreath as pictured in Medieval art). There are some **50 puncture wounds in the scalp** from the brow to the top of the neck. See <https://othonia.org/deep-dives-article/the-crown-of-thorns-forensic-evidence/>. Hover your cursor over each question mark in the photos on the website, to bring up additional information.

I thought about the story of Abraham and Isaac, when God halted the sacrifice of Isaac and provided a “ram caught in a thorn bush,” to offer instead. That ram symbolized Jesus, “caught in the thorns.”

2. Blood traces show that the man of the shroud image sustained **120+ scourge wounds**. See <https://shroudofturin.uk/research-evidence/forensic-evidence/injuries-depicted>.

An ancient commemorative plaque was discovered in 1961 at Caesarea Maritima, the ancient capital of Roman Judea, inscribed with the name Pontius Pilate, Procurator of Judea. Exactly as written in the Gospels. Search “Pilate stone” at wikipedia.org. Before that stone was unearthed, some nay-sayers said the story of Pilate ordering the crucifixion, was made up.

3. The blood on the shroud is from a **male, and is type AB** - the rarest human blood type (2%). This blood type is more common among Jews (5%). See <https://othonia.org/deep-dives-article/blood-on-the-shroud-three-key-discoveries/>.
4. The blood on the shroud contains high levels of creatinine and bilirubin, demonstrating severe and sustained premortem physical trauma. The high bilirubin content caused the blood on the Shroud to remain a red color to this day, rather than turn the dark brown color typically seen with old blood.

Question: How could a Medieval forger know to obtain a rare blood type *with* indicators of severe premortem trauma? And be sure to demonstrate wounds and blood flow patterns consistent with ancient Roman flogging and crucifixion. And also obtain linen made from **flax grown in the Eastern Mediterranean region**. Forensic techniques to test such things would not be developed for another 800 years.

How could a Medieval forger know to sprinkle the linen with tiny, almost invisible **pollen grains** from plants that only bloom in the area of Jerusalem, in the Spring. And rub traces of unique **Jerusalem sandstone** on to the bottom of the feet, and on the knee area. How?

5. The body of the Shroud image was in **rigor mortis**. That is why the head and the knees are drawn up. Rigor lasts from 24 to 48 hours following death. Wow! Some forger!
6. The thumbs do not show. The thumb of each hand would have pulled into the palm when the radial nerve was severed by the nail driven through the wrist. Some forger!

Note: In the ancient Hebrew, and the Greek text, the area that we commonly call the “wrist” was considered part of the “hand.” (In Medieval art, the nails are always shown driven through the palms. Forensic science has shown this placement would not sustain the weight of an adult male.)

7. Blood stains show a **deep wound through each foot**.

Medieval art consistently pictured the feet of Christ nailed one over the other, with a single nail driven down through the top of the feet. We now know the usual placement was to nail each foot to the lateral side of the upright post, one on each side with a nail through each heel. Because the matrix of the heel bone is “soft,” this could be done without fracturing the bone. The bones of a few ancient crucifixion victims have been recovered. Two were found with a nail still in place, driven through the heel bone. The end of the nail had bent, making removal difficult. Roman executioners reused nails. See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TG0CSEpqQCI>.

8. The man of the Turin burial Shroud *was* dead. There are post mortem blood stains on the very expensive linen cloth. The man of the Shroud died by Roman flogging and crucifixion. Yet **there are no traces of putrefaction (decay after death) on the cloth**. For me, this is powerful evidence of resurrection.
9. Crucifixion victims were hung up naked. (Medieval art always pictured Christ covered by a loin cloth, while hanging on the cross.) The man of the shroud image was buried naked, covered only by the shroud. Crucifixion was designed to be a prolonged, horribly painful and most humiliating death, a message to a conquered people that submission to Rome was preferable.
10. Early depictions of Christ in **icons** and on **coins** (2nd thru 5th centuries) appear to copy the image of the Shroud. Those artists must actually have seen the Shroud, long before 1353 when written records place the Shroud in France. In the early centuries, before aging of the cloth began to dull the image, the Man of the Shroud could have been viewed more easily.

11. The Shroud image is a photographic negative. A photograph of the Shroud then reveals the positive image. How could a Medieval forger create a perfect photographic negative, when the science of photography would not be discovered for another 500 years? Some forger!
12. The Shroud of Turin has never been duplicated. The image is not paint, stain, dye, smoke or fumes. **It was made by a powerful microsecond burst of radiant energy**. The discoloration on the cloth that forms the image, is not found under the blood stains. The blood stains were on the cloth before the image was formed.
13. The **Carbon14 date** of 1260CE to 1290CE (Middle Ages), reported in 1988, has since been soundly refuted. The one sample used for that dating, was taken from a corner that turned out to have been repaired (during the Middle Ages) with cotton threads that were dyed to match the color of the Shroud. And the corners were the most handled areas of the Shroud for hundreds of years.
Also, the Shroud was rescued from a fire in 1532. Archeologists today do not Carbon14 date fabrics that have heavily absorbed smoke from a fire. The carbon from the smoke, skews the dating.

I have read through some 10 books (so far) on the Shroud evidence. I've watched dozens of videos, and visited many websites. My favorite book is **"THE SHROUD OF TURIN, A Forensic Summary of the Evidence"** by Otangelo Grasso. My only complaint concerns the size of the illustrations in that book. I had to use 3 power magnifiers. But I'm 78.

The amount of information is beyond impressive. Many researchers now refer to the Shroud of Turin as "The 5th Gospel."

We pray this information will prove a blessing.
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