

By His Stripes

By Craig Paardekooper

My aim was to obtain the highest resolution images of the shroud that are available.

In 2008, an image of the shroud was taken consisting of 12.8 billion pixels. This image was made by taking 1600 individual pictures and stitching them together. <https://cool.culturalheritage.org/byform/mailling-lists/texcons/2008/03/msg00004.html>

Though such a large image is good for microscopic analysis, I opted for the pictures taken by Vernon Miller in 1978. Vernon Miller was designated as the official scientific photographer of the 1978 Shroud of Turin Research Project, Inc.-STURP. His high resolution photos of the shroud can be viewed here - <https://shroudphotos.com/>

I downloaded image 008 (section 1C) shown below –

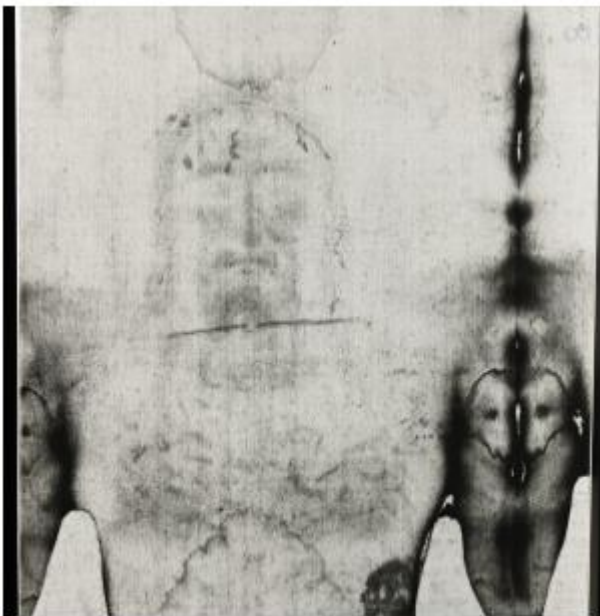
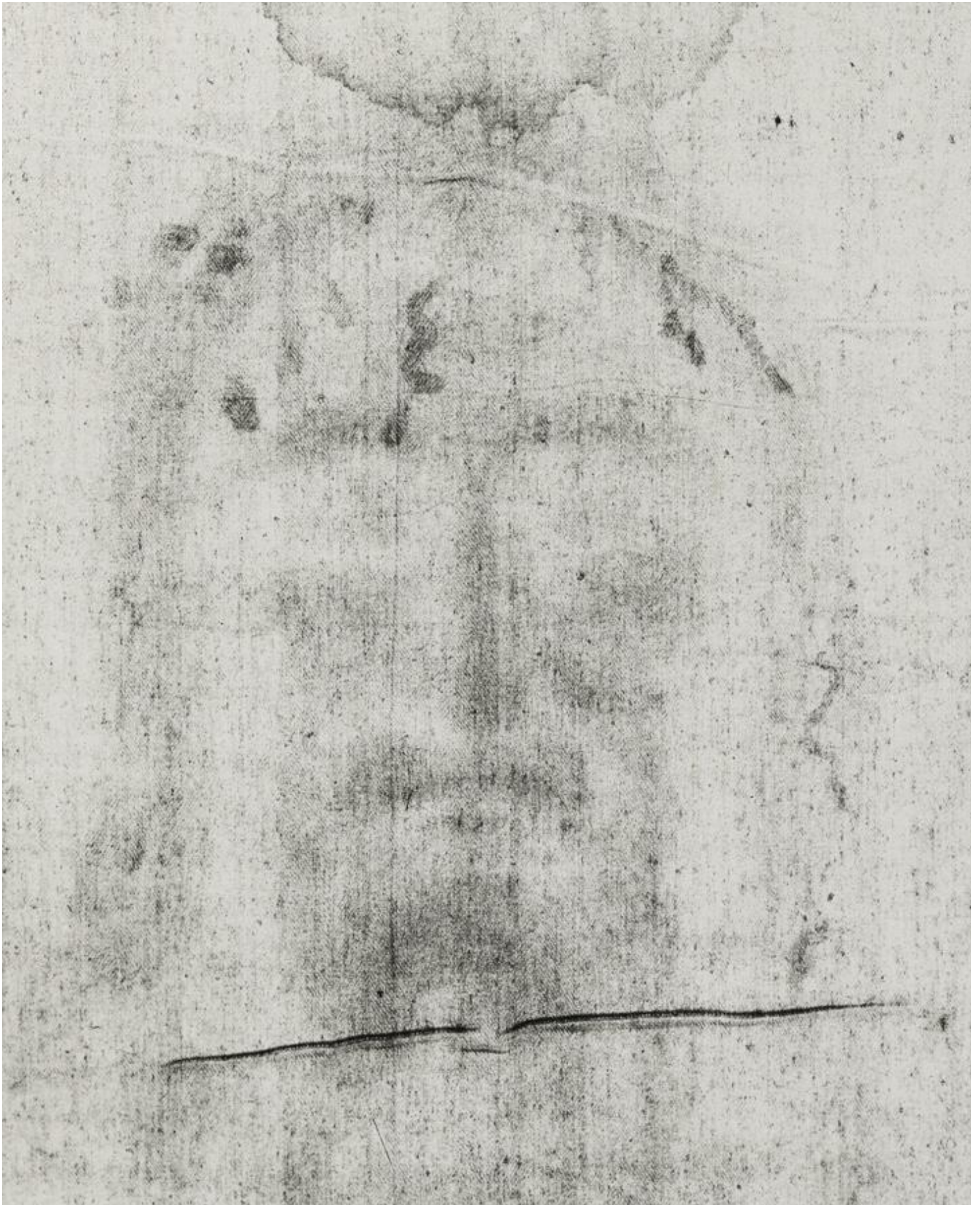


Image 008 (Section 1C)

My aim was to see if I could discover any extra details in the image when I inverted its colors, and applied other photographic adjustments.

The Face of Christ

This is the starting image as visible with the naked eye. It looks like a blurry outline of a male face – lacking fine details as if sketched using charcoal.



Here is the negative that I got when inverting the colors. It looks like a photograph. His face looks long and the nose is long and angular. My first impression was that he looks Arabic. Arabic belongs to the semitic family, as does Israel. Semitic people's tend to have long faces. Zooming in, you can see the weave of the linen.

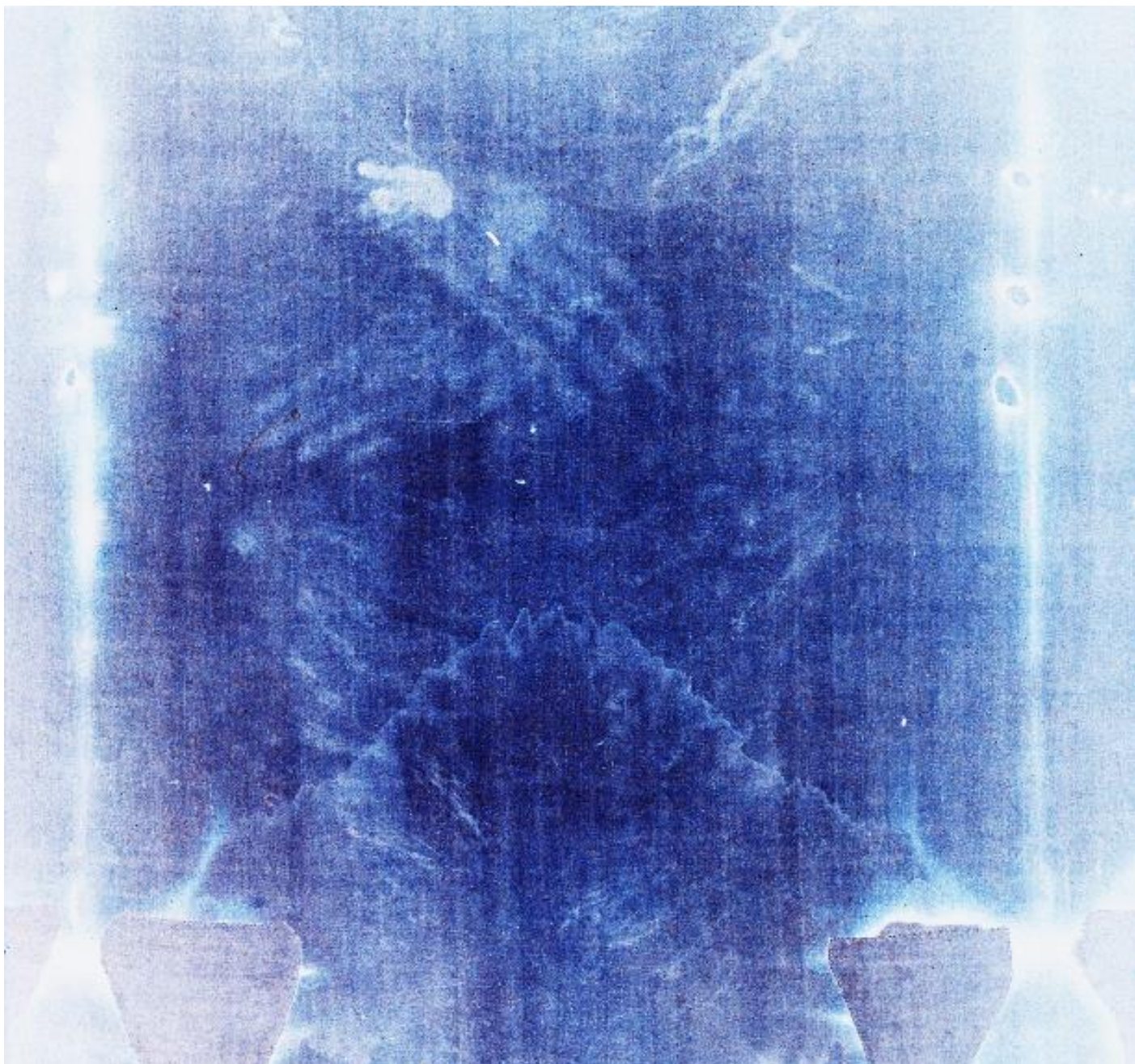
<https://www.quora.com/Why-do-Arabs-have-long-faces>. See also [Arabid](#).

https://www.reddit.com/r/phenotypes/comments/147v0q1/what_are_the_key_differences_between_middle/?rdt=62372



The Hands of Christ





Notice that the blood from the wrist nails appears to run horizontally from right to left. Place your hands in a similar position and draw a line with a felt tip so that it matches the line in the shroud picture. Now, elevate your arm into the crucifixion position, and you will see that the blood is running downwards. The thumbs are missing because the wrist nail pierced the median nerve causing the thumbs to retract.

Blood Marks on the Arms



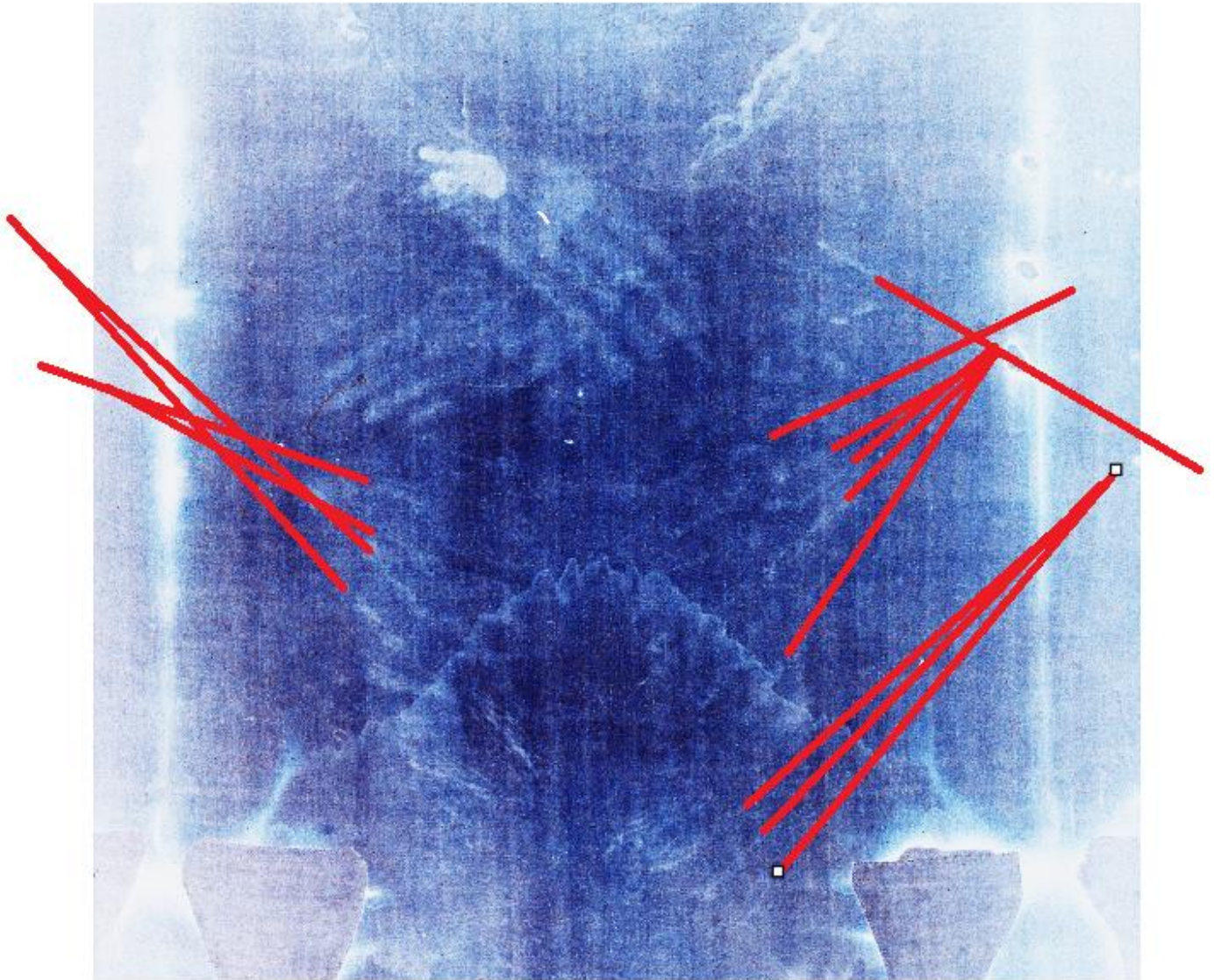
The blood marks on the arms run down the forearms from the wrist injuries. The blood flows in the direction of the elbows.

Blood would flow in this direction only if the person was in the crucified position.

The blood impressions were produced by contact, so they are less visible on the left wrist, since the right hand covers the left hand, and raises the linen away from the left wrist.

The Angles of Strike

The markings on the thighs seem to radiate from 2 different loci, indicating that he was scourged from both sides by two different people.



"Goniometry is the science of calculating angles, that is, for instance, enabling the direction of fire of a rifle to be calculated from the path of a bullet through a victim's body. The Shroud whip marks spread from the tops of the shoulders to the lower reaches of the calves, in places extending to the front of the body, in an astonishingly convincing-looking distribution pattern. From horizontal across the loins they fan upward over the upper back, crisscross over the shoulders, and fan downward on the thighs and calves. If the work of a forger, he has taken the care to think out exactly how the whipmaster swung this way and that, how he placed himself behind his victim, how high he held his hand, yet all so subtly conveyed that the marks are hardly visible on the Shroud itself, and can only properly be followed on the photographic negative"

Wilson, I., 1986, "The Evidence of the Shroud."

Next I looked at the dorsal (back) image.



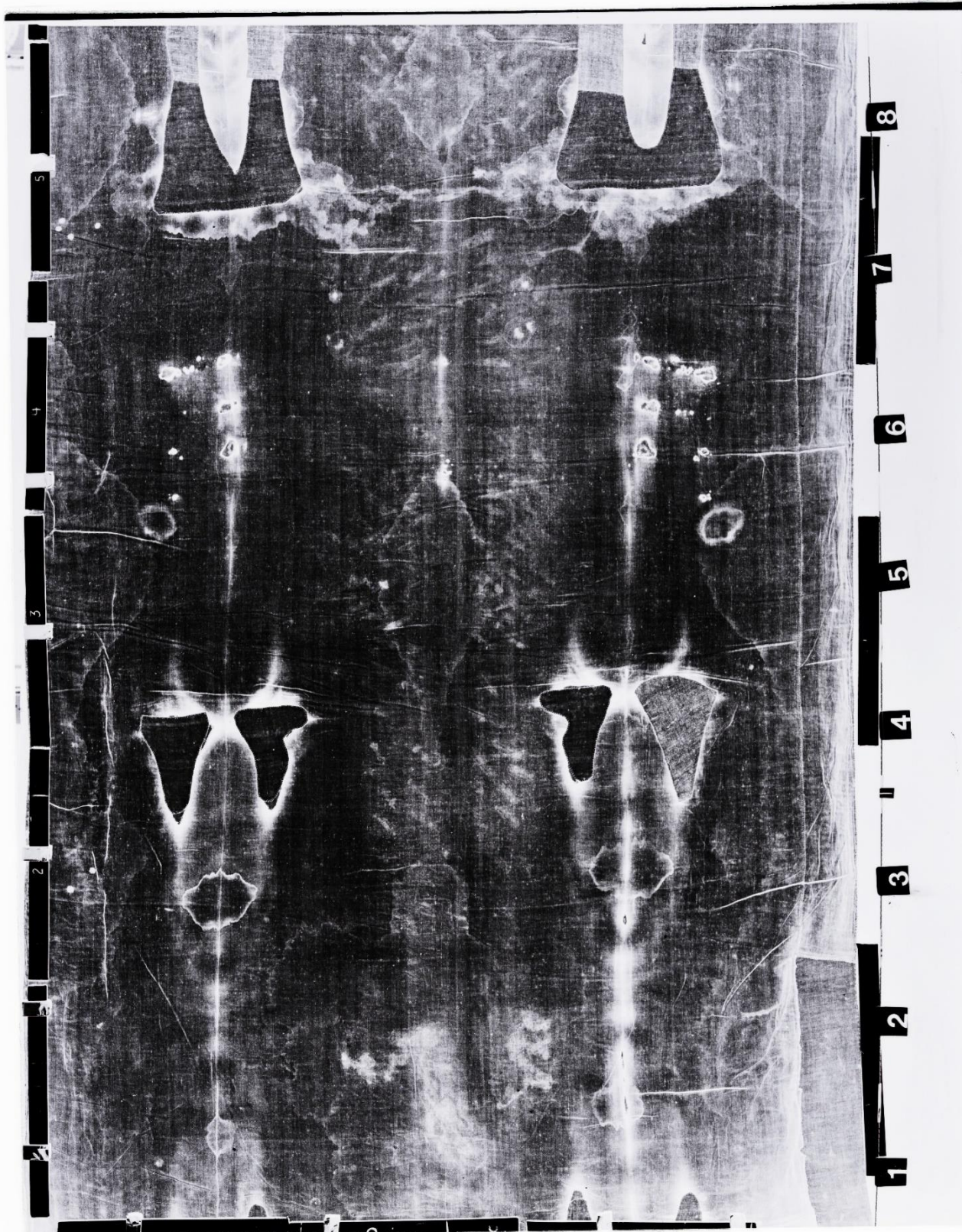
As you can see, when his back was scourged, only one scourger, who stood on his left, applied the scourge to his legs and abdomen. This is apparent from the direction of the strikes that fan out from a single loci on his left.

On the other hand, his shoulders were scourged by two scourgers since the dumbbell shapes have two directions at 90 degrees to one another. The scourger on his right did most of the scourging of the upper back and shoulders.

Knees and Feet in Crucifixion Position

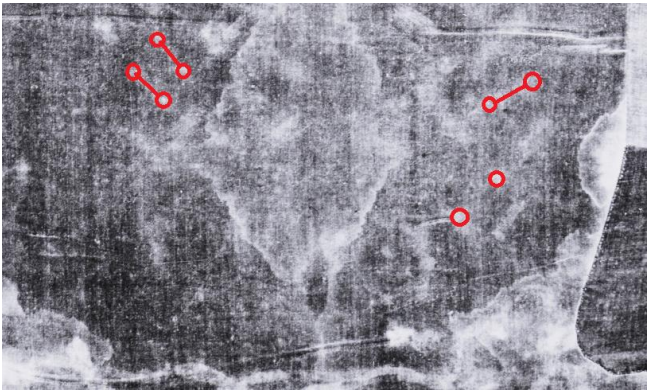
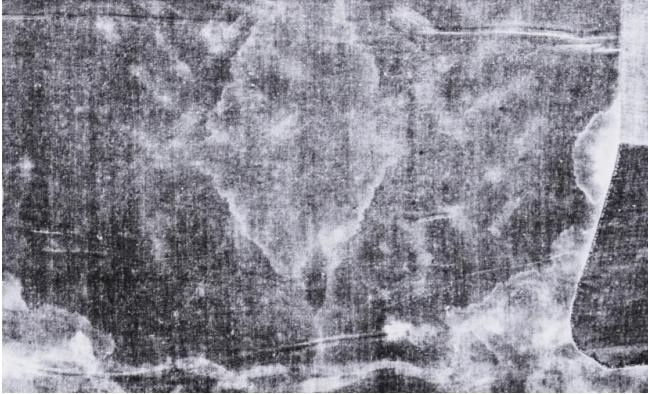
Here is the dorsal image after I inverted the colors. It looks as if both his feet were pointing downwards, with the right knee bent more than the left.

Notice that his right leg is elevated at the knee, because during crucifixion his right foot was nailed on top of his left, and this position became fixed due to rigor mortis.

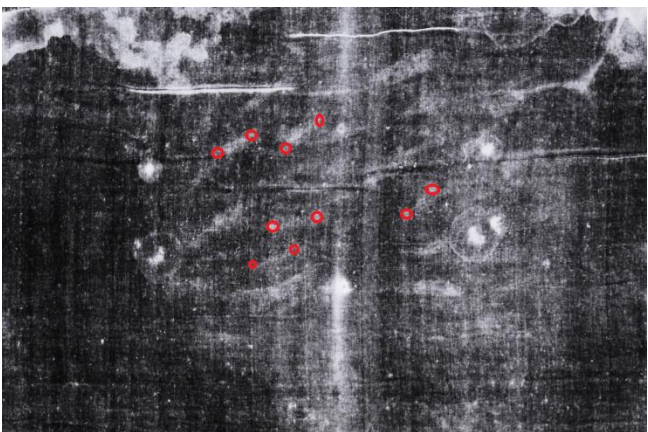


Dumbbell Pattern

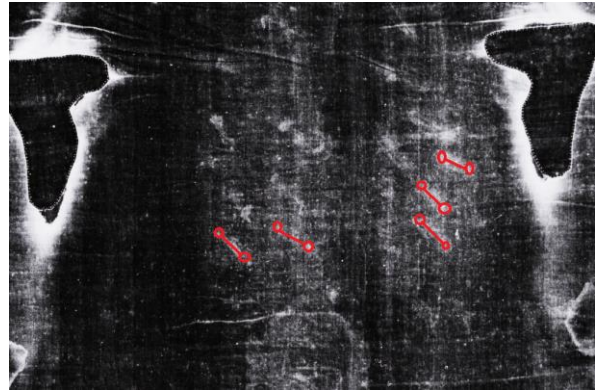
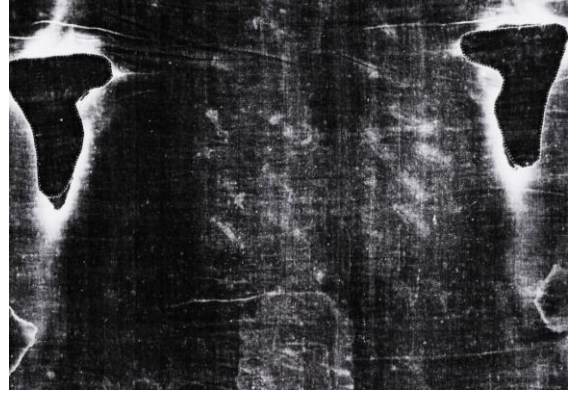
Upper back and shoulders



Lower back



Thighs

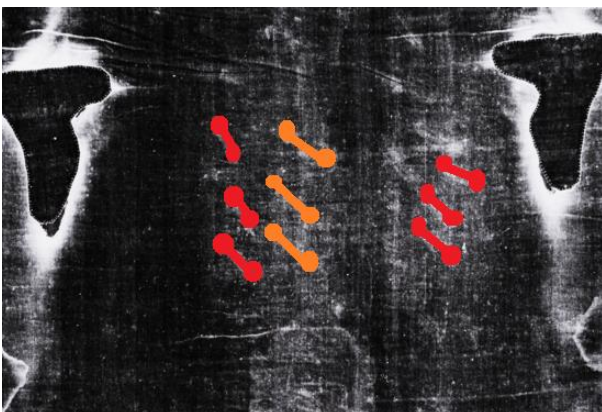
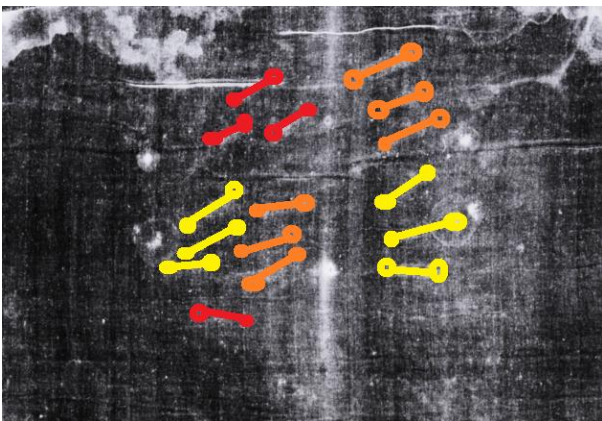
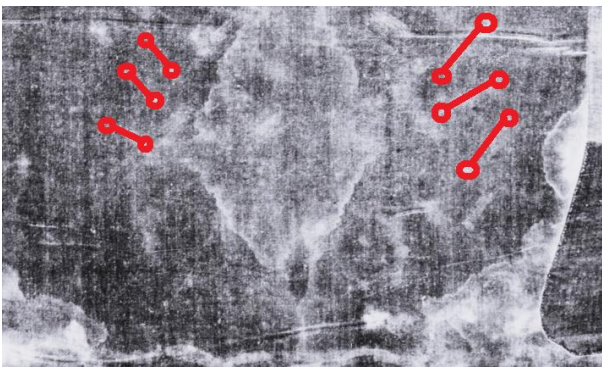




The groupings of the scourge marks into groups of two or three, the proximity of the loci to the body , and the dumbbell shape of the marks indicate that this instrument was used.

A flagrum similar to what created the scourge marks was later recovered from the Roman city of Herculaneum[24], which, with its neighbour Pompeii, was buried in the eruption of Mt Vesuvius in AD 79[25].

Triple Pattern



Serum

“Multiple blood components were chemically demonstrated to exist within the Shroud bloodstains, including hemoglobin, bilirubin, and albumin (3-5). Interestingly, for many of the wounds examined, a fluorescent border was noted under ultraviolet (uv) light, which was suggested to represent serum “halos” or “rings” at the periphery of the bloodstain (6). The main body of the bloodstain was highly absorbing, in agreement with what has been reported for blood analysis under uv (6,7).”

The blood images are consistent with those of clotted blood and not a freshly flowing wound in that they appear thickened at the edges. As blood forms a scab it contracts, thickening the edge of the scab and exuding serum onto the surface and edges of the contracting clot. This phenomenon is simply termed clot retraction.

These serum contraction rings are even visible to the naked eye when viewing the major wounds. They are especially visible under ultra-violet light, where they have a yellow fluorescence.

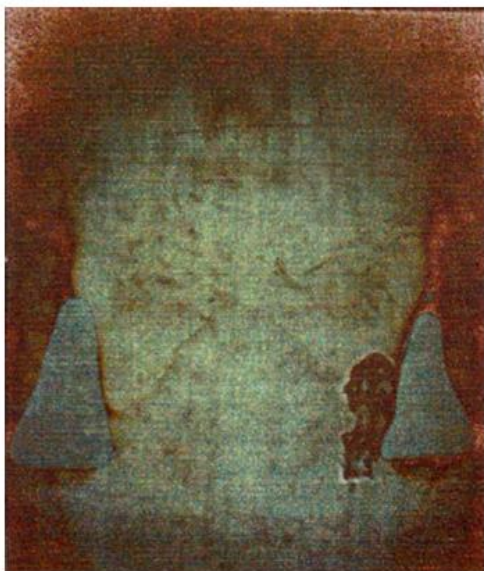
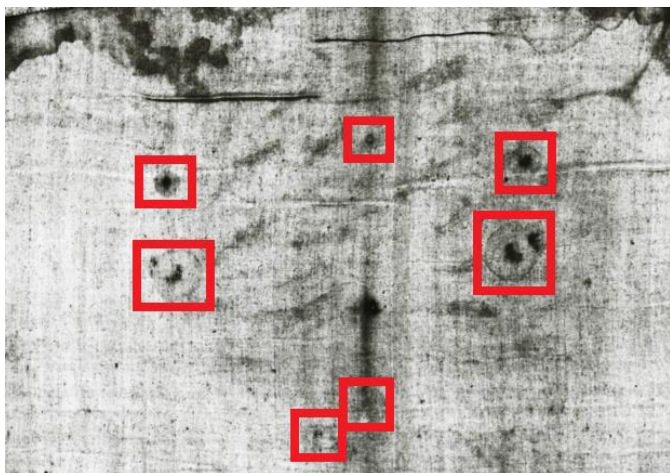


Fig. 2. Ultraviolet photograph of the upper part of the frontal body image. Note the serum contraction ring easily seen about the lance wound.

The border of every blood mark shows the typical yellowish fluorescence of the serum exudate ring around scabs as expected for clot retraction transfer marks.



Here is a photographic inversion of the shroud. I have marked 7 dark blood stains surrounded by a circle of lighter serum. These 7 wounds appear to have punctured the skin, drawing blood. They are the most intense strikes – corresponding to the middle back area. It has been noticed that the intensity of the strikes decreases towards the feet.

The other strike marks have blood marks that are less intense, where the skin was not broken, but deeply bruised. Consequently, the rings of serum are not visible.

Notice also in the inverted picture above that the beads forming the dumbbell shapes are much more apparent.

“One of the most interesting characteristics of the bloodstains on the Shroud is the presence of serum “halos/rings” surrounding various wounds in the ventral and dorsal portions of the image. These areas were noted in the 1978 STURP investigation during examination of the cloth under ultraviolet light. The presence of such markings led to the interpretation that clotted blood was transferred to the cloth, and thus, could not have been fabricated by the direct addition of whole blood. Relatedly, the improbability that a forger would have added the detail of “halos/rings” in anticipation of their eventual discovery by the then unknown method of ultraviolet detection has also been commented on relative to the direct addition of blood to the cloth.”

Serous drainage is a clear to yellow fluid that leaks out of a wound. It's slightly thicker than water. It's the fluid that makes your bandage look and feel wet. This type of wound drainage is a normal part of your body's healing process. Too much serous fluid is a sign of an infection.

<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/symptoms/25033-serous-drainage>

“Exudate consists of fluid and leukocytes that move to the site of injury from the circulatory system in response to local inflammation. This inflammatory response leads to blood vessel dilatation and increased permeability, resulting in increased production of exudate. The nature and quantity of exudate depend on the nature and severity of the tissue damage.”

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/22647956/>

So, the amount of serum exudate is proportional to the severity of the tissue damage. Scouring would produce an intense inflammatory response, resulting in increased production of exudate. The back would swell, and any open wound would then exude copious amounts of this exudate. The excessive amount of exudate accompanying the scourges of the middle back indicates that the scouring caused far more inflammation than the side wound produced by the spear thrust.

The ratio of exudate to blood is proportional to the degree of inflammation of surrounding tissue. That's why the ratio of serum to blood is far higher in the scourged areas compared to the spear wound area - because the inflammation is much greater when a living man is scourged than when a dead man is speared.

If the serum marks were produced by a forger who added a “thinner” such as alcohol or citric acid to human blood, then the ratio of serum to blood should be the same for all wounds; this is obviously not the case.



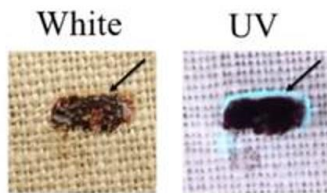
Two scourge wounds from the lower back area. The dark areas are blood. These are surrounded by a circular patch of exuded serum that stained the linen shroud. You have probably seen similar serum marks when you have applied a plaster to a cut, and noticed a clear stain on the plaster afterwards. These large serum halos are not due to clot retraction, but due to excess inflammation of the tissue during scourging.



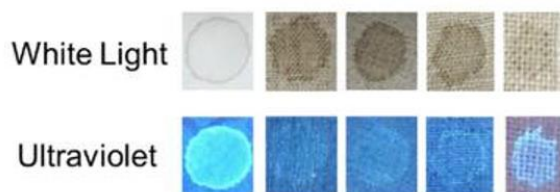
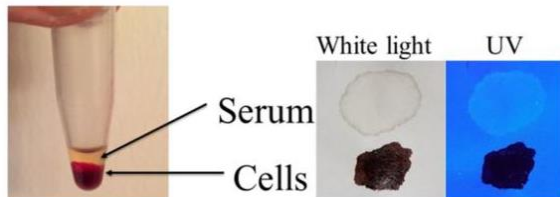
These are “mirror images” of the above two injuries – caused by the folding of the shroud whilst the shroud was still wet with blood and serum. The imprint of the left absorbed some serum and blood from its counterpart injury. The injury on the right exuded serum mixed with blood that ran along the weave of the cloth.

Serum Retraction Rings

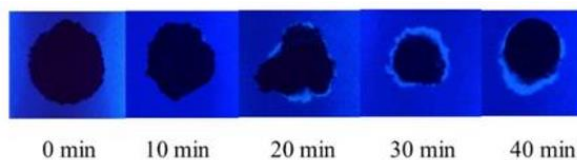
Under Ultra-Violet Fluorescent Photography, almost all the blood (scientific research has proven that it is human blood) shows a serum retraction ring of albumin around the solid parts of the blood, typical for post-mortem blood. This phenomenon is not visible with the naked eye and was unknown until about 100 years ago.



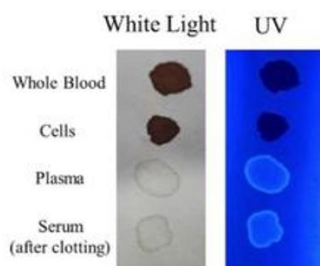
Blood was applied to parafilm and allowed to clot for 40 minutes, then linen placed on top. Following drying, the linen was then removed, and examined using normal (white) light and UV light.



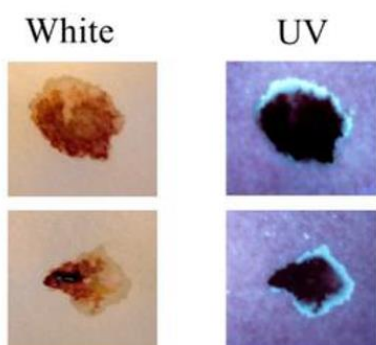
Purified serum was added to filter paper (far left), and various linen types, and examined under white light and UV.



Blood was applied to parafilm and allowed to clot for the time period indicated. At that time, filter paper was placed on top, and the sample allowed to dry. Following drying, the filter paper was removed and examined in UV light.



Blood fractions were added to filter paper and examined under normal (white) light and UV.



Blood was applied to skin and allowed to clot for 40 minutes. At that time filter paper was placed on top, and the sample was allowed to dry. Following drying, the filter paper was removed and examined under white and UV light.

Blood and Water

<https://aleteia.org/2019/06/22/a-doctor-on-why-blood-and-water-gushed-from-jesus-heart>

Body Image Produced by Radiation

Resolution : The image has good resolution – like a photograph. This could not be achieved by direct contact or by diffusion, but only by radiation. The radiation was vertical and collimated, since there are no side images, and uncollimated radiation would produce a blurry diffuse image. In a photograph one can observe a directionality, which means that you can see from which direction the light came that caused the shadows and light areas. The image on the Shroud does not show this characteristic and it seems that the image was formed straight up- and down, which is called “COLLIMATED”.

Intensity & Distance : the intensity of the image is proportional to distance between cloth and image. This again suggests action over a distance – radiation.

Intensity & Density : Individual fibers are all about the same color (monochromatic). The image is portrayed in variable diffuse tones of a pale brownish-yellow color (consistent with a puce color, sepia toned). The intensity of the image shows what we call the half-tone effect and is caused by the amount of discolored fibers per square unit. Like a face made of dots all of equal size. More dots means more points of origin or less loss of dots over distance. Darker areas have a higher density of dark fibres (not fibres with a darker colour).

Negative : the image is a negative of the body – where all colours are inverted. Nearer is darker. Suggesting radiation – a distance effect.

No contact : the image is not distorted, as it would be if the shroud was wrapped around the body. So, shroud was flat and floating above body at the moment of impression - indicating action over a distance - radiation. The image of the Man on the Shroud is anatomically correct. There is foreshortening of the legs caused by the bending of the two legs. If the image formation was collimated, then that makes sense of course. The fact of the anatomical correctness excludes a process of image-formation by direct contact.

No weight : dorsal body image shows no sign of weight or compression of the body pressing against the rock platform at the moment of impression- so body was floating above the rock platform . Indicating action over a distance – radiation.

Superficial : only the top layers of fibres are darkened – suggesting a very short burst of radiation. The image is present only on the top two or three fibers of the **threads**. These fibers are hollow, and the lumen is called medulla and shows no discoloration, and the individual fibers are all about the same color (monochromatic). It is important to note that these individual fibers of the threads are 10 to 20 times thinner than a human hair (14-8 micrometer for every fiber = 0.25-0.3 mm). Every yarn is composed of 70-120 linen fibers each 0.25-0.3 mm. According to Kevin Moran, **on the sides of the fibers the image is like cut with a knife, visible with precision microscopy, so there is no image on the backside of the fibers**. This suggests radiation.

Shielding : Fibers above shield fibres below, indicating radiation.

Halo : The maximum luminescence of the head image is 10% higher than the rest of the body suggesting a higher amount of energy coming from the head.

All aspects suggest radiation -

1. Resolution
2. Intensity
3. Negative
4. No contact
5. No weight
6. Superficiality
7. Shielding
8. Halo

No other person has ever produced a similar image in all history.

An Explanation

- Floating suggests rising
- Light/radiation suggests transformation
- Impression suggests testimony

The sharp definition of blood stains show that there was no movement between the shroud and body after deposition of the body in the tomb . So how was the body removed from the shroud without smudging the blood? It was not moved, but transformed (into energy).

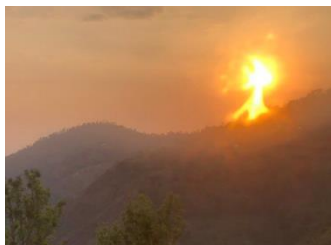
The evidence is consistent with

- the transfiguration, resurrection and ascension of Christ.
- the prophecies of the resurrection of Christ in the Gospels, Isaiah and Daniel

Halo : The maximum luminescence of the head image is 10% higher than the rest of the body suggesting a higher amount of energy coming from the head.



This is what I saw on October 18th (See <https://howbad.info/x-symbol-37.pdf>)



The Sun appeared to contain a cross.



This was the shape inside the Sun