The Post-STURP Era of Shroud Research 1981 to the Present

Presented by
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LECTURE 11

Some Important Events, Papers and Articles Part 2
Some Important Events, Papers and Articles

March 2-5, 2000: An invitation-only International Symposium on the Shroud called "The Turin Shroud: Past, Present and Future," is held at the Villa Gualino in Turin, Italy. The attendees include noted sindonologists from around the world like Dr. Alan Adler, Dr. John Jackson, Dr. Alan Whanger and Ian Wilson, along with other experts who have only been peripherally involved with the Shroud in the past. Ian Wilson calls it "probably the best-ever Shroud Symposium."*

This event is listed on shroud.com as The March 2000 Scientific Congress on the Holy Shroud of Turin. See the above link for details.

*Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page
http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
Some Important Events, Papers and Articles

May 6, 2000: A one day Shroud Imaging Symposium called "La Sindone, dalla fotografia alla tridimensionalita" (The Shroud, photography and three-dimensionality) is held at the Sanctuary of the Holy Shroud in San Felice Circeo, Italy. Hosted by Don Augusto Bonelli, participants include Emanuela Marinelli, Aldo Guerreschi, Nello Balosino, Jose Umberto Cardoso Resende and Barrie Schwortz.*

This event is listed on shroud.com as The May 2000 Shroud Imaging Conference. See the above link for a complete list of papers presented, photographs and other details. Here are links to two excellent papers that were presented at the conference:

The Turin Shroud: from the photo to the three-dimensional by Aldo Guerreschi
The Turin Shroud and Photo-Relief Technique by Aldo Guerreschi

*Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
Some Important Events, Papers and Articles

**June 10, 2000:** Dr. Alan Adler, world renowned chemist, original STURP team member and one of the most important scientists in international sindonology, dies unexpectedly in his sleep. His death rocks the world of Shroud research to its foundation. **Adler was the only American scientist on Archbishop of Turin Saldañini's Scientific Advisory Commission.** His loss is mourned worldwide and is considered by many a serious blow to American Shroud research. **[Editor's Note: Shortly after his death, the Adler family gathers all the samples of Shroud materials that were in Adler's possession (including the most important of the tape samples taken during the STURP examination in 1978 and loaned to him by Raymond N. Rogers) and returns them to the Archdiocese of Turin. Over the next year or two, Rogers makes five different written requests to the Turin authorities to have his samples returned to him, but he never receives any response].**

**August 12 to October 22, 2000:** A ten week public exhibition of the Shroud is held in Turin to commemorate the Jubilee anniversary of the birth of Jesus. It marks the fifth such exposition of the Shroud since it was first photographed in 1898 and modern science took an interest in the cloth. It also has the distinction of being **the longest ever public exhibition in recorded Shroud history.**

Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page  
http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
August 27-29, 2000: A major International Shroud Symposium, called "Sindone 2000," is held in Orvieto, Italy. Organized by Emanuela Marinelli and other members of the Collegamento pro Sindone, researchers attend from around the world. Just a few of those presenting papers at the conference included Paul Maloney, Prof. Giulio Fanti, Dr. Alan and Mary Whanger, Rev. Albert "Kim" Dreisbach, Maurizio Marinelli, Aldo Guerreschi, Joseph Marino and Sue Benford, Isabel Piczek, Fr. Frederick Brinkmann, Kevin Moran, Prof. Daniel Scavone, Jack Markwardt, Barrie Schwortz and many more.*

This event is listed on shroud.com as The Orvieto Worldwide Conference "Sindone 2000". See the above link for a complete list of papers presented, photographs and other details. Here are links to a few of the papers that were presented at the conference and a link to the Official Conference Website:

Evidence for the Skewing of the C-14 Dating of the Shroud of Turin Due to Repairs by J. Marino and M. S. Benford

Is The Shroud of Turin a Medieval Photograph? A Critical Examination of the Theory by Barrie M. Schwortz

*Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
October 25-28, 2001: The Holy Shroud Guild and the American Shroud of Turin Association for Research (AM*STAR) co-sponsor the 2nd International Dallas Shroud Conference in Dallas, Texas. The conference is attended by many well known Sindonologists from around the world.*

This event is listed on shroud.com as 2nd International Shroud Conference - Dallas 2001. See the above link for a complete list of papers presented, photographs and other details. Here is a link to the only paper available from the conference:

Thomas and the Cenacle Reconsidered by Rev. Albert R. Dreisbach, Jr.

*Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
April 25-26, 2002: The International Center for the Study of the Shroud of Turin (CIELT), the largest Shroud study organization in France, sponsors their fourth major symposium, the IV Symposium Scientifique International du CIETL, in Paris, France. Many researchers from around the world attend the event and present papers and abstracts regarding current and future Shroud studies.*

This event is listed on shroud.com as IV Symposium Scientifique International du CIETL - Paris 2002. Here are links to the two papers available from the conference:

Photographic and Computer Studies Concerning the Burn and Water Stains Visible on the Shroud and Their Historical Consequences by Aldo Guerreschi and Michele Salcito

Does the Shroud Body Image Show Any Physical Evidence of Resurrection? by Kevin Moran and Giulio Fanti

*Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
June 20 - July 22, 2002: A small group of textile experts, headed by Mechtild Fleury-Lemberg of Switzerland, perform a dramatic and radical "restoration" of the Shroud under the auspices of the Archbishop of Turin and his advisors at the Turin Center for Shroud Studies, and with the full permission of the Vatican. They remove the thirty patches sewn into the cloth by Poor Clare Nuns in 1534 to repair burn holes from the 1532 fire. They remove the backing cloth (frequently referred to as the "Holland Cloth") that was sewn onto the back of the Shroud in 1534 to strengthen the fire damaged relic. They photograph the hidden back side of the cloth and then re-attach a new, whiter linen backing cloth. They use lead weights suspended from the edges of the Shroud to "flatten" many of the creases in the cloth and apply steam to certain areas to help accomplish this. They handle the cloth without gloves or special clothing. They scrape away the charred edges of all the burned areas and collect the scrapings into small containers. During a continuous period of thirty-two days, they expose the cloth to significant amounts of potentially damaging light and the polluted air of Turin. They perform this restoration in secret, without consulting any of the world's Shroud experts (including most of their own advisors) that could have contributed important scientific guidance to ensure that no valuable scientific or historical data was lost or damaged during the restoration. They set off a firestorm of controversy, criticism, debate and recrimination that ultimately engulfs, polarizes and divides the Shroud research community.

Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
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Late 2002: After the announcement of the Shroud's "restoration" earlier in the year, a group of scientists and Shroud scholars joins together in an internet group, Yahoo ShroudScience, to discuss the scientific issues surrounding the Shroud. In 2005, the group publishes a jointly authored compilation of known scientific facts about the Shroud's image, titled, “Evidences for Testing Hypotheses About the Body Image Formation of the Turin Shroud.”

January 20, 2005: A peer reviewed scientific paper by Raymond N. Rogers, retired Fellow of the Los Alamos National Laboratory, is published in the journal Thermochimica Acta, Volume 425, Issues 1-2, Pages 189-194. Titled "Studies on the radiocarbon sample from the Shroud of Turin," the paper concludes: "As unlikely as it seems, the sample used to test the age of the Shroud of Turin in 1988 was taken from a rewoven area of the Shroud. Pyrolysis-mass spectrometry results from the sample area coupled with microscopic and microchemical observations prove that the radiocarbon sample was not part of the original cloth of the Shroud of Turin. The radiocarbon date was thus not valid for determining the true age of the Shroud."

Rogers' paper is extremely important as it provides a credible scientific argument for redating the cloth to determine its actual age, and is widely reported in the media, but to a far lesser extent than the coverage given to the 1988 c-14 dating that declared the cloth a "medieval fake." Almost immediately, Shroud scholars and skeptics alike begin debating, agreeing and disagreeing with Rogers and each other.

Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
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March 8, 2005: Raymond N. Rogers, internationally renowned chemist from Los Alamos National Laboratory and member of the Shroud of Turin Research Project (STURP) team, dies in Los Alamos, New Mexico, after a long illness.*

Rogers’ paper is arguably the most significant paper to be published in the post-STURP era. It is the first paper in the peer reviewed scientific literature to directly challenge the conclusions of the 1988 radiocarbon dating of the Shroud that declared it was medieval in origin. As such, it reopened the door to further Shroud studies as it provided a scientifically plausible answer to the 1988 results and was consistent with the wealth of other scientific data pointing to the Shroud’s greater age.

*Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
Studies on the radiocarbon sample from the shroud of turin

Raymond N. Rogers

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Received 14 April 2004; received in revised form 14 April 2004; accepted 12 September 2004

Abstract

In 1988, radiocarbon laboratories at Arizona, Cambridge, and Zurich determined the age of a sample from the Shroud of Turin. They reported that the date of the cloth’s production lay between A.D. 1260 and 1390 with 95% confidence. This came as a surprise in view of the technology used to produce the cloth, its chemical composition, and the lack of vanillin in its lignin. The results prompted questions about the validity of the sample.

Preliminary estimates of the kinetics constants for the loss of vanillin from lignin indicate a much older age for the cloth than the radiocarbon analyses. The radiocarbon sampling area is uniquely coated with a yellow-brown plant gum containing dye lakes. Pyrolysis-mass-spectrometry results from the sample area coupled with microscopic and microchemical observations show that the radiocarbon sample was not part of the original cloth of the Shroud of Turin. The radiocarbon date was thus not valid for determining the true age of the shroud.

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Keywords: Shroud of Turin; Lignin kinetics; Pyrolysis/mass spectrometry; Flax fiber analyses

1. Introduction

The Shroud of Turin is a large piece of linen that shows the outline of a man on its surface. Many people believe it is the body of a man on its surface. Many people believe it is the body of a man. Some believe it is the body of Jesus Christ. The controversy of the Shroud of Turin is extremely controversial. The Shroud of Turin is removed in 1973 for examination. The strip came from a single site on the main body of the shroud away from any patches or charred areas. Franco Testore, professor of textile technology at the Turin Polytechnic, and Gabriel Vial, curator of the Ancient Textile Museum, Lyon, France, approved the location of the radiocarbon sample. However, the operation was done in secrecy, and no chemical investigations were made to characterize the sample.
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September 8-11, 2005: The 3rd International Dallas Conference on the Shroud of Turin, jointly sponsored by The Holy Shroud Guild and the American Shroud of Turin Association for Research (AM*STAR) in collaboration with the Centro Internationale de Sindonologia, of Turin, Italy, is held in Dallas, Texas. This was the first Shroud conference to have international co-sponsors.*

This event is listed on shroud.com as the 3rd International Dallas Conference on the Shroud of Turin. See the above link for a complete list of papers presented, photographs and other details. Here are links to a few of the 13 papers available at shroud.com:

A Clean Cloth’ - What Greek Word Usage Tells Us About the Death and Burial of Jesus by Diana Fulbright

Radiological Aspects of the Shroud of Turin by Dr. Alan Whanger

The Geography of the Shroud by Emanuela Marinelli Paolicchi

The Veil of Manoppello: Work of Art or Authentic Relic? by Roberto Falcinelli

Further Studies on the Scorches and the Watermarks by Aldo Guerreschi

*Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
In July 2008, a new paper by Benford and Marino was published in the respected, peer-reviewed scientific journal, Chemistry Today, making it the second paper to challenge the C14 dating in the scientific literature.

Source: http://chemistry-today.teknoscienze.com/pdf/benford%20CO4-08.pdf
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August 14-17, 2008: Joe Marino, Sue Benford and the Shroud Science Group, organize and sponsor "The Shroud of Turin: Perspectives On A Multifaceted Enigma," an International Shroud Conference at Ohio State University, Blackwell Hotel.*

This event is listed on shroud.com as The Shroud of Turin: Perspectives On A Multifaceted Enigma. See the above link for a complete list of papers presented, photographs and other details. Here are links to a few of the papers that were presented at the conference and a link to the Official Conference Website:

The Sudarium of Oviedo: A Study of Fiber Structures by Raymond N. Rogers
Visibility of Shroud Image: An Optical Physicist's Perspective by John Dee German
Digital Image Analysis of the Shroud of Turin: An Ongoing Investigation by Raymond J. Schneider
The Shroud of Turin, the Holographic Experience by Petrus Soons
Advancing the Shroud into the 21st Century: Reaching the Next Generation by Russell Breault

*Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page
http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
Robert Villarreal and a team of eight researchers from Los Alamos National Laboratory analyzed Rogers’ samples and also presented their results at the Columbus, Ohio, Shroud Conference. Their data further corroborated Rogers’ conclusions.

Link to Online Abstract:  http://www.ohioshroudconference.com/a17.htm
Link to WMV Video:  http://www.shrouduniversity.com/videos/villareal.wmv
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April 6, 2009: Sue Benford, dedicated Shroud researcher who helped bring to light the data regarding the anomalous nature of the 1988 c-14 sample, dies unexpectedly after a brief illness.*

April 10 to May 23, 2010: The Shroud is displayed publicly for the first time since 2000, giving the public their first opportunity to see the relic since the controversial "restoration" of 2002.*

May 4 to May 6, 2010: The International Workshop on the Scientific Approach to the Acheiropoietos Images is organized by Paolo Di Lazzaro and sponsored by and held at the ENEA Research Center, in Frascati, Italy.*

Here is a link to the Official Conference Website and a link to the Proceedings of the event where you can read all the papers that were presented.

*Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
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August 31 to September 2, 2010: The II International Congress on the Holy Shroud, organized by the Lima Catholic Studies Center (CEC-Lima) and “Accion Universitaria” is held at the University of Lima (Peru).*

Here is a link to the Official Congress Website and the English language article titled 2nd International Congress on the Holy Shroud- Lima, Peru by Professor Rafael de la Piedra, theologian and Shroud scholar, who has provided us with a comprehensive overview of the event in both English and Spanish.

*Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
November 20, 2010: The Second National Shroud Encounter in Fátima, Portugal, organized by the Centro Português de Sindonologia (Portuguese Sindonology Center), founded in the 1980's by Dr. Lagrifa Fernandes, was held at Allamano's Missionaire Center inside the Museum of Consolata Missionaires near the Fatima Sanctuary.*

Here is a link to the Portuguese Sindonology Center Website and a first hand Report on the Second National Shroud Encounter in Fátima, Portugal by Dr. Carlos Evaristo, world renown relic expert and one of the conference speakers.

*Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
April 28-30, 2012: 1st International Congress on the Holy Shroud in Spain is held in Valencia, Spain. The event is sponsored by the Centro Español de Sindonologia (CES).*

Here is a link to the Official Congress Website (in Spanish). This event is listed on shroud.com as 1st International Congress on the Holy Shroud in Spain - Valencia. See the above links for a complete list of papers presented, photographs and other details. Here are links to a few of the many excellent papers that were presented at the congress:

The STURP Research Project PowerPoint presentation by Barrie M. Schwortz
Discovering More of the Shroud's Early History Text/PowerPoint by Ian Wilson
The History of the Shroud Text/PowerPoint presentation by Mark Guscin
The State of the Samples Used for the 1988 Dating Text/PowerPoint Robert Villarreal
Perspectives for the Future Study of the Shroud by Bruno Barberis
The Setting for the C14 Dating of the Shroud by Emanuela Marinelli

*Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page
http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
June 30 - July 1, 2012: 1st International Scientific Congress on the Holy Shroud in Panama is held in Panama City, Panama. The event is sponsored by the Arquidiócesis de Panamá.*

This event is listed on shroud.com as 1st International Scientific Congress on the Holy Shroud in Panama. See the above link for a complete list of papers presented, photographs and other details. Here are links to a few of the papers that were presented at the congress:

- The Shroud of Turin Research Project 1978 Scientific Examination of the Shroud PowerPoint presentation by Barrie M. Schwortz
- The Sudarium of Oviedo and its Relationship with the Shroud of Turin Text and PowerPoint presentation by Professor Janice Bennett
- The Halo Around the Head of the Image of the Man on the Shroud Mandylion of Edessa Text and PowerPoint presentation by Professor Petrus Soons

*Source: Shroud of Turin Website Shroud History Page http://www.shroud.com/history.htm#2000
END OF LECTURE 11

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