

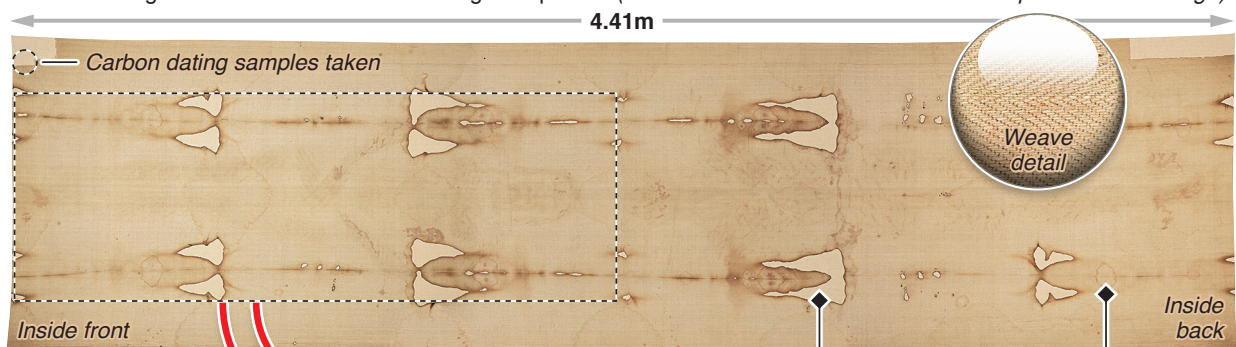
Real or fake, the Turin Shroud continues to captivate

The shroud, believed by many Christians to be the burial cloth of *Jesus of Nazareth*, appears to show the image of a naked man bearing wounds consistent with crucifixion. Debunked as a medieval forgery in 1988, a more recent study concludes it could indeed have originated in the era of Jesus Christ

CONFLICTING EVIDENCE



SHROUD Length of linen cloth woven in herringbone pattern (*restored in 2002 to remove medieval repairs to fire damage*)



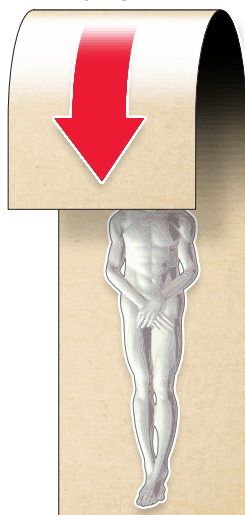
ENHANCED IMAGE

Using Photoshop, image inverted and flipped, contrast boosted

Head: Swellings and fractures show signs of beating. Blood stains from small puncture wounds conducive with "crown of thorns"

Wrist: Oval wound possibly caused by nail pinning limb to cross

WRAPPING BODY



FIRE DAMAGE

1532: Shroud folded into silver reliquary at church in Chambéry

Stains:

Probably from water used to extinguish fire

Distinctive burns:

Visible once unfolded

Molten silver: Burns through 48 layers of linen

Reliquary: Melts in extreme heat

Knees:

Grazed skin likely due to multiple falls

Feet:

Single nail wound through both feet



ABRIDGED HISTORY



Sources: Shroud 2.0 iPad app, sindone.org, biblearchaeology.org, wire agencies

Picture: Commissione Diocesana per la Sindone

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