

Black Lives Matter and the Shroud of Turin

Letter to the editor from Pam Moon.



On the 25th March 2020 George Floyd died in Minneapolis at the hands of four police officers. One of them knelt on his neck and suffocated him. Floyd's last words were 'I can't breathe.' His death sparked a wave of international protests encapsulated in the words 'Black Lives Matter.' Coming on the back of the disproportionate number of BAME lives which have been lost to COVID-19; and

in an economic climate which puts black people at a disadvantage, the murder of Floyd resonated around the world. The outpouring of anger sadly led to further deaths and a breakdown of social distancing.

What has this to do with the Shroud of Turin? The Shroud has *the* iconic image of Jesus Christ. It is made up of two colours: the faint sepia of the face and body and the carmine red of blood. The image of Jesus has no paint and is without skin tone, without eye colour, without hair colour. It cannot be used to fuel any racist agenda. If this is the image of God, as many Christians believe, then God is not racist.

Jesus, like George Floyd, also died a violent death. And his message of forgiveness, non-violence and peace are important truths for us to hear. But we must never think that God endorses any form of racial supremacy. God is beyond and above our narrow fears, prejudices and bigotry. So, let there be peace, but let us strive to ensure that Black Lives Matter. Every life matters to God.

Yours sincerely,

Pam Moon. <http://www.shroudofturinexhibition.com/>

NB. Subscriber's letters are welcome as are your own personal experiences and stories relating to this remarkable subject.

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