

Recently Published Papers & Articles

July 2023

[An Analysis of the DNA and Hematological Findings of the Shroud of Turin and the Sudarium of Oviedo](#) by **Paul Alan Dreschnack, MD** – Master's thesis, **Harvard University Division of Continuing Education** – November 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the abstract: “...DNA analysis performed at the University of Padua traced the path across Europe from Jerusalem to Turin by examining the surface pollen. On its journey, many people venerated it, and added their DNA to what was already present. Contamination is extensive. More studies need to be done. We are examining the only remaining evidence of a violent crime. If there is evidence of a unique singular origin, the implications are more than theological. Even scientifically and medically speaking, it is more than a matter of faith. It already is a legend.” [**Editor’s Note**: Once on the page, click on the View/Open link to download the entire thesis].

[Key Statements about the Turin Shroud as a Textile](#) by **Joseph G. Marino** – *Academia.edu* – May 27, 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the introduction: “...I recently wrote an article titled “Analysis of the Turin Shroud as a Textile – a Bibliography.” Since it is a bibliography, it takes some work on the part of a reader to go through all of the available material, I thought it would be useful to excerpt some of the more significant statements made by various experts and authors...”

[Notable Quotations about the Shroud of Turin](#) by **Joseph G. Marino** – *Academia.edu* – May 18, 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the introduction: “...I thought it might be useful to list some of most notable quotations made over the Shroud’s history. I have tried to list all the major ones and/or the ones over the years that have stood out to me. They will limited to two categories: pro-authenticity or unsolved and anti-authenticity. (Those who say it is unsolved tend to be more open to it being authentic than leaning toward believing it will be solved). I will list in each category and in chronological order the source and quotation...”

[The Shroud of Turin: a Matter of Clear Evidence or a Subtle Sign?](#) by **Joseph G. Marino** – *Academia.edu* – April 24, 2023 – Here is the introduction: “Some people believe the Shroud of Turin, the putative burial cloth of Jesus, is literal proof of Jesus' Resurrection. However, based on Jesus' use of parables and the Johannine concept of "signs," (generally defined as "an object, quality, event, or entity whose presence or occurrence indicates the probable presence or occurrence of something else"), it is more intelligible to analyze the Shroud in terms of faith and signs rather than science and proof.” [**Editor’s Note**: This paper will be archived in the [Religion & Philosophy](#) section of the site].

[The Primordial Fold](#) by **Cesar Barta** – *Academia.edu* – April 18, 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the article: “Currently the center of the Shroud is marked by a fold or crease that runs along its length. This was the center when the fire of 1532 occurred and when the 4 groups of burns in L were marked. But during the restoration work of 2002, Dr. Flury Lemberg, who led this restoration, noted another fold next to the one previously mentioned, but that does not match the current center and it is shifted toward the side opposite to the side wound...”

['Someone just got a piece of linen, faked it up, and flogged it:' Professor Edward Hall and the Turin Shroud](#) by **Joseph G. Marino** – *Academia.edu* – April 15, 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the introduction: “I recently wrote an article titled ‘The Perennial Problem of Dishonesty in Science. Has it occurred in Research on the Turin Shroud?’ In it I put forth the statement that dishonesty in science is not uncommon, and that there is plenty of evidence of it in the case of the study of the Turin Shroud, which is a controversial and emotional subject... Because of its apparent connection to Jesus, the Shroud is

certainly fertile ground for intellectual dishonesty and duplicity. The late Edward T. (Teddy) Hall, who was head of the Oxford University lab, one of three that dated the Shroud in 1988, made the quote shown in the title of this article, shortly after the British Museum announced in October 1988 that the Shroud only dated to: ‘1260 – 1390!’ Notice the out-of-place exclamation point in the date range...”

[The Image of Edessa Transfer from the Muslims to the Byzantines in AD 943: Sindonological Implications](#) by **Joseph G. Marino** – *Academia.edu* – April 11, 2023 – Here is the introduction: “The Image of Edessa, a cloth believed to have an image of Jesus on it and possibly identified with the Shroud of Turin, was transferred in AD 943 from the Muslims to a large Byzantine army at Edessa in exchange for leaving Edessa untouched, to pay a large sum of money, and to release 200 high-ranking Muslim prisoners. Three main questions are addressed: 1. Would Romanus have given up so much to obtain a cloth that was merely an artistic rendition of Jesus? 2. How good is other evidence that points to the belief that what arrived in Constantinople in 944 is what we now call the Shroud of Turin? 3. What could account for the fact that there are discrepancies between the descriptions of the Image of Edessa and Mandyliion being only facial images versus full images? More historical research needs to be done.”

[The Perennial Problem of Dishonesty in Science. Has it Occurred in Research on the Turin Shroud?](#) by **Joseph G. Marino** – *Academia.edu* – March 17, 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the introduction: “When most people think of scientists, they typically think of a group that is generally honest and reliable. Unfortunately however, many known frauds have been perpetrated in scientific research. I searched on google for “dishonesty in science” and got 29,500,000 hits! Scientists, like everyone, have preconceptions and biases. Still, it’s part of their job description to do everything they can to limit them so that their conclusions can be objective as possible...”

[The Authenticity of the Shroud of Turin. A written conversation with ChatGPT](#) by **Jose L Fernandez** – *Academia.edu* – March 7, 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the introduction: “...The usage of knowledge representation, ontologies (Fernandez, 2005) and artificial intelligence tools such as ChatGPT could be very helpful in managing the vast knowledge about the Shroud of Turin for the sake of comprehension of this mystery... It is important to realize that how to prompt the tool is important for the results obtained (Hamilton, 2023), so nowadays the job of prompt engineer is needed. The tool has answers but not always the right answers. One important problem with AI is interpretability and other is bias (NIST, 2023).”

[VUV Radiation and Protons cannot produce the Shroud Body Image](#) by **Giovanni Fazio** – **World Scientific News**, WSN 178 (2023) 1-11 – March 1, 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the abstract: “In this paper we investigate the radiative hypothesis, already proposed by other scientists, as being the mechanism that may have produced the Shroud Body Image. We are critics of the above process, because it is incomprehensible to both Physics and Theology. Moreover, due to the presence of air in addition to linen, it is impossible to penetrate to the same depth all the points of the region where the Body Image should lie.”

[Prophecy and the Shroud of Turin](#) by **Sean Anderson** – *Academia.edu* – March 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the introduction: “If as it is purported to be, the burial linen in which the body of Yeshua, Jesus, was wrapped, the Shroud of Turin is not only an enigma today but was so in the Gospels as well. The Gospels record that Miryam mother of Jacob (aka Mary, James), Joanna, Salome and Mary Magdalene among others, were upset when they discovered the body of Jesus missing from the tomb. Symeon (St. Peter) was confused as he gazed at the empty linens. The Apostle Yohanan (St. John) saw

the linens and came away convinced that Jesus had risen from the dead...” [**Editor’s Note:** This paper will be archived in the [Religion & Philosophy](#) section of the site].

[The Nexus between Faith and Science in Sindonology: an English-Language Bibliography](#) by **Joseph G. Marino** – *Academia.edu* – February 26, 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the article: “...This article aims to provide some sources that address the relationship between faith and science in the study of the Shroud. There have been, in fact, several Shroud conferences in recent times that inserted the topic into the name of their conference...”

[Is the Shroud of Turin More Likely Ancient or Medieval Based on Textile Evidence? What do the Scholars Say?](#) by **Joseph G. Marino** – *Academia.edu* – February 16, 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the article: “One of the focal points regarding the authenticity of the Shroud of Turin, believed by many to be the actual burial cloth of Jesus, is whether the textile evidence clearly indicates whether it fits with ancient times, including the 1st century, in which Jesus lived, or with a medieval milieu, which includes the 13th/14th century, in which some people believe the Shroud originated based on the infamous 1988 C-14 dating that has been beset with controversy. Does it perhaps fit into both periods, and/or more toward one than the other?”

[Some experiments and remarks regarding the possible formation of blood stains on the Turin Shroud: stains attributed to the crown of thorns, the lance wound and the belt of blood](#) by **König, L., Schmölders, R., Jühling, M. et al.** – *International Journal of Legal Medicine* – February 11, 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the abstract: “The Turin Shroud (TS) is a Christian relic interpreted to be the burial cloth of Jesus of Nazareth. It exhibits red discolorations that have been interpreted as blood stains and that are the subjects of a highly controversial discussion. We conducted experiments to identify theoretically possible explanations for the stains attributed to the crown of thorns, the lance wound and the belt of blood...”

[Some Ancient Reproductions of the Turin Shroud: How Well do they Compare with the Original?](#) by **Joseph G. Marino** – *Academia.edu* – February 6, 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the article: “...This article aims to look at some ancient reproductions (pre-1898, the common date used for the beginning of the modern study) of the Shroud and determine, as best as possible, whether it is plausible that a forger in the Middle Ages could have produced the Shroud. Photos of reproductions (in chronological order) will be shown, with additional information from the text of the source or the photos’ captions...”

[Some Reflections on the Shroud of Turin Vis-à-vis Biblical Verses](#) by **Joseph G. Marino** – *Academia.edu* – January 31, 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the introduction: “I’ve heard some skeptics claim that the Shroud cannot be authentic because the Bible does not mention an image in any accounts of the burial. There may have been a very practical reason that the gospel writers didn’t mention it. Both the Romans and the Jews would have likely destroyed the cloth if they had gotten their hands on it. If the first Christians were keeping the existence of the cloth hidden, it would make sense that they would not have emphasized or mentioned the image in their main writings. Christians behind the scenes likely would have been kept in the loop orally about the whereabouts of the cloth. The late Episcopal priest, Rev. Kim Dreisbach, went even further and believed that the early Christians used coded language (“spy clues”) in their writings to impart information to the faithful about the Shroud while keeping the enemies of Christianity in the dark...” [**Editor’s Note:** This paper will be archived in the [Religion & Philosophy](#) section of the site].

[Analysis of Photoelectric Colorimetry and Fluorimetry of the Turin Shroud](#) by **Larry Schwalbe** and **Sam Pellicori** – *International Journal of Archaeology*. Volume 11, Issue 1, June 2023, pp. 1-8. doi: 10.11648/j.ija.20231101.11 – Published January 30, 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the abstract: “We analyze spectrophotometric data collected directly on the Turin Shroud in 1978. Using standard methodologies, we transform 19 visual reflectance and 16 UV-fluorescent emission spectra to CIE xyY color space coordinates. We then compare these results to those of an Italian team of investigators. Comparing x-y chromaticities, the reflectivities from clear areas (background), image, and blood-stain locations agree with corresponding data collected independently by the Italian team. In both sets of data, the clusters from image and background areas overlap strongly and are clearly separated from the blood-stain points. Data from lightly scorched areas fall within the clusters from background and image locations. Data from deeper scorches diverge significantly, as do all scorch data from the Italian team. We generate similar colorimetric data from the spectral UV-fluorescence measurements made by the Shroud of Turin Research Project (STURP)...” Use this link to [download a pdf version of the entire paper](#). [Editor’s Note: I must add that this is the final paper co-authored by Larry Schwalbe. It was published on January 30, 2023 and Larry died on January 31st. Please see the **In Memoriam** section of today’s update].

[Thomas of Wesselow and the Shroud of Turin: How to Turn Half-truths into a New Theology?](#) by **Prof. Dr. Jack Brandão** – *Lumen et Virtus*, Vol. XIII, No. 34, July-December 2022 – Posted online February 2023 – Here is an excerpt from the abstract: “This article seeks to deconstruct the aura of methodological exemption employed by the English art historian Thomas de Wesselow in their work *The Sign: the Holy Shroud and the Secret of the Resurrection*, released in Brazil in 2012. Furthermore, it will seek to demonstrate how the historian uses his object of research just as a springboard for creating his doctrine...”

[Did Jesus Die by Suffocation? An Appraisal of the Evidence](#) by **Thomas W. McGovern, MD, David A. Kaminskas, MD** and **Eustace S. Fernandes, MD** – *The Linacre Quarterly*, 2022, Vol. 0(0) 1–16 – **Catholic Medical Association** – Here is an excerpt from the abstract: “A majority of medical and lay articles regarding crucifixion, and specifically the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, now state that suffocation was the primary cause of death from crucifixion. An in-depth analysis reveals that this theory is based on a form of torture unrelated to crucifixion and that no evidence directly linking suffocation to crucifixion has been published. Indeed, a thorough review of available ancient evidence from literature, artwork, graffiti, and modern archeology and re-enactment studies reveals no evidence in favor of suffocation and much evidence against suffocation as the cause of death in typically-portrayed crucifixions, and particularly for the crucifixion of Jesus Christ...”

Here is an older article you might find interesting:

[The Shroud of Turin and Extra Sheds of Warping Threads. How Hard can it be to Set up a 3/1 Chevron Twill, Herringbone on a Warp-weighted Loom?](#) by **Antoinette Meret Olsen** - *EXARC Journal* Issue 2020/4 – November 25, 2020 – Here is an excerpt from the Conclusion: “...When I wove the plain 3/1 chevron twill on my warp-weighted loom, the weft passed over six single warping threads (3 double warping threads) and under two single warping threads (1double warping thread), Since the shed rod and heddle rod nr 2 are not threaded opposite of each other, I got one extra shed in the weave, while weaving the 3/1 chevron twill, which means that I was weaving a double weave. My test results, as I have described them in this article, tells me that the Shroud of Turin cannot have been woven on a warp-weighted loom. The Shroud of Turin must have been woven on a treadle loom.”