

New Discoveries On The Sudarium Of Oviedo

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Abstract:

The Sudarium of Oviedo and the Shroud of Turin are two relics attributed to Jesus Christ that show a series of amazing coincidences announced in the past. They lead to confirm the use of both cloths on the same person. In this contribution, we describe the X-ray fluorescence analysis carried out on the Sudarium and how we found a new fascinating coincidence with the Shroud. Among the chemical elements detected, the most reliable was calcium. Being associated to soil dust, it shows a significant higher presence in the areas with bloody stains. This fact allows correlating its distribution with the anatomical features of the corpse. A large excess of calcium is observed close to the tip of the nose. It is atypical to find soil dirt in this zone of the anatomy, but it is just the same zone where a particular presence of dust was found in the Shroud. The detection of very low strontium traces in the stained areas matches also well with the type of limestone making up the rock of Calvary in Jerusalem. This new finding adds to others recently released; i.e. the ponytail shape of the Man of the Shroud hair is justified by the use of the Sudarium of Oviedo and we identify a stain in this cloth that can be a scourge mark. Such a gathering of evidences strengthens the tradition that both cloths have wrapped the body of Jesus of Nazareth.