

The Resurrection & the Principles of Divine Light

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When trying to understand the image making properties of the Shroud of Turin, we need a greater understanding of the properties of light. We take it for granted that golden Halos of light depict Holy figures in historical art, but why should holiness be depicted by light emanations, if no such phenomena had ever been witnessed? Is Divine Light a less understood extension of conventional light, and if so, how does this manifest?

The Bible has many chapters that speak of Light events, including the Transfiguration of Christ ¹. The Transfiguration is the best example of visible light emanating from Jesus - as witnessed by Peter, James and John. *Matthew 17, vs 2*: says 'His face shone like the sun', which is akin to the phenomena that Yogi's and Mystics refer to as the 'Light Body'. Interestingly, it also says 'His clothes became as white as the light', implying that the fabric of his garment was also affected. This event happened whilst he was still very much alive, whereas we can only speculate about the Light Event that happened in the tomb, based on modern scientific testing on the image of the Shroud. This led researchers to conclude that the image was caused by a burst of radiation affecting the top-most fibrils of the cloth, which indicates an emanation of light from within Jesus' body, using the Shroud as a "photographic medium" to record the event – permanently.

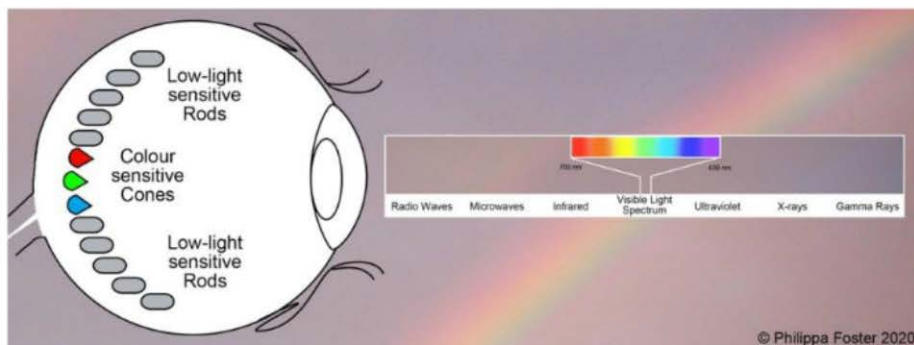
How can this finding help us understand the science of image formation?

To date, no-one has ever successfully replicated all of the properties of the Shroud image. Could this be because the conventional light spectrum does not fully account for the image formation process? Photons of light are both massless particles and waves of Electromagnetic radiation, with visible light being the only type of EM radiation that we can see - perceived as the colours of the rainbow - each having a different wavelength. The frequency of light is measured by the number of waves passing a stationary point - in cycles per second. Visible light accounts for only a small fraction of the electromagnetic spectrum, with various types of non-visible light existing at lower and higher frequencies, including Radio waves, Microwaves, Infrared, Ultraviolet, X-rays and Gamma rays. Some of these are capable of penetrating matter and so are used in medical imaging, and also to gather astronomical data from distant objects that would be impossible with conventional telescopes alone. However, none of the known forms of EM radiation fully account for the image formation on the Shroud. For example:

- Because the image on the Shroud is so photographic in appearance, Camera Obscura using visible light has been used to try to recreate the image, but the resulting image fades quickly when exposed to natural light, and therefore couldn't have survived the passage of time and multiple Expositions in hot climates. It is also a 'reflected' light source rather than emanating from 'within' Jesus' body, so it fails to account for the directionality of the image.

- Microwave radiation could account for the dehydration effects noted on the fibres but would require temperatures so high that they would severely damage the cloth by 'over-cooking' it.
- X-rays would make sense of the appearance of the skeletal structure of the hand bones, but the rest of the body appears as a surface image rather than internal scan because no other bones or organs are apparent, which seems to rule out other forms of medical imaging as well.
- A nuclear event such as splitting the atom, releases immensely destructive forces, turning subjects to ash, and so could not account for the lightly coloured fibres.

Crucially, the directionality of the image on the Shroud points to the body disappearing physically at the moment of image creation, as per John Jackson's 'collapse theory'. This has led people to speculate that the energy bound-up in Jesus' cells was spontaneously released, generating enough power to mark the cloth, and for His physical body to be converted into pure energy - matter into energy - and then later, for this energy to be returned to physical form. Yet, the ability to control such powerful forces, in order to subtly photograph Himself whilst returning from death's grip, is hard to accept. But I believe there is an explanation based on subtle light phenomena, still scientifically sound, but which requires a different approach in order to fit the required criteria for image formation.



The Light Source.

First, we need to understand a little about the properties of Visible Light.

Because Jesus was seen to emanate light at various points in His ministry, it seems logical to start with the visible spectrum. Light in the form of Electromagnetic waves, is created as a result of vibrations between an electric field and a magnetic field. The portion of the light spectrum that we see with our eyes, falls upon photoreceptor cells in the retina at the back of the eye called 'rods' and 'cones', and electrochemical signals travel via ganglion cells to the brain, to be interpreted into the images we see. High resolution, colour stimuli fall mainly onto the central region dominated by 'Cones', which gives detailed vision. Whereas, the surrounding area is dominated by low-light

sensitive ‘Rods’, designed to interpret movement and brightness. By understanding these biological processes, one can increase the ability to witness low-light phenomenon and subtle energies, as follows:

1. Averted Vision: The rods in the corner of the eye nearest the nose, are the cells used for ‘Averted Vision’², which is the best way to view low-light astronomical phenomena such as distant nebulas and galaxies, but also, subtle energy phenomena such as Halos and Auras. There is plenty of scientific evidence to support the existence of the Aura or ‘Human Energy Field’ despite it being a very difficult phenomenon to image, although it is claimed that Kirlian Photography has achieved this. *(For this article, the term Aura refers to the Human Energy Field, and not the medical term relating to epileptic seizures.)*

2. Dark Adapted Vision: In the past, people seemed to accept that Holy figures could emit ‘Light’ phenomena. Possibly, prior to the invention of electrical lighting, human eyesight was better ‘Dark Adapted’, and therefore more able to view these rare Halo phenomena. Dark Adapted Vision happens after 40 minutes of being in low-light levels, when the eyes have had time to produce sufficient amounts of ‘Rhodopsin’ to replenish the cell’s optimum light-gathering properties.

3. Alpha Brainwaves: In addition to scriptural accounts reporting a heavenly glow around the heads of Holy figures, there are extensively documented accounts of people seeing Beings of Light or Angels when close to death. If this occurred whilst their brainwaves were in the Alpha range - 7-12Hz, it could help explain their heightened perception of subtle energies. Alpha is a very relaxed state which we pass through when falling to sleep, but which can also be achieved through meditation, and is required for ‘sensing’ subtle energies. It is believed this ‘sensing’ goes beyond ‘normal seeing’, and incorporates a wider range of senses.

4. The Pineal Gland: The Pineal gland is located at the base of the brain, and secretes a hormone called melatonin, which is believed to function best in low-light levels. It has been considered the seat of the Third Eye, which is our Higher Mind.

My understanding of these ‘Light’ phenomena has come from nearly three decades of training and research into healing energies and the scientific efforts to provide a sound basis for the existence of the Human Bio-energy Field³. *(For further reading on the extensive scientific research into the Human Energy Field, I recommend the books by Barbara Ann Brennan and the research papers on the NFSH Healing Trust website.)*

Beyond the Visible Spectrum.

To understand the Resurrection, we need to understand, not just Light, but the boundary between matter and energy. To do this, we have to expand our understanding of particles

and waves ⁴. Much work has been done to try to find the smallest elementary particles. Particle accelerators have produced an abundance of new particles, which leads to questions as to what can truly be called an elementary particle. This led to the theory of an underlying waveform called a 'Superstring'. This 'string' vibrates like the string of a musical instrument, and these infinite strings vibrating at various frequencies give rise to all the matter in the universe. To take this further, one has to realise that the term 'string', actually refers to 'strands of energy on the quantum level'. Essentially, matter is formed from subatomic particles made of tightly-wound strands of energy. The most convincing model I have heard to explain this, is David Ash's theory of the 'Spherical Vortex' ⁵. His theory resolves the problems with the theory of the vortex atom proposed by Lord Kelvin, by reducing it to the subatomic level, visualizing the vortex in three dimensions, updating it in relation to Einstein's special theory of relativity and quantum theory, and removing the need for an ether as a cosmic medium in which the waves can propagate. To understand the Spherical Vortex, imagine a tightly wound ball of wool, and then unravel it. The woolen thread - representing the energy waves which make up the particle, can then be rewound, either into the same shape or take on an entirely new form. *(Interestingly, in Bible accounts from Luke 24, vs 16: and John 20, vs 14: the disciples found it difficult to recognise Jesus when they first encountered Him after the Resurrection, until His Crucifixion wounds convinced them of His identity. Was Jesus still in the process of recovering His physical form, and was this why it would have been dangerous for Mary Magdalene to touch Him whilst his matter / energy was still at a higher rate of vibration? It would mean that He wasn't rebuking her for touching Him, but concerned for her welfare in case she was affected by some kind of radiation.)*

The Matter / Energy Threshold.

Once we accept matter as tightly wound energy, we can then ask if it is possible for matter to turn back into energy and more importantly, then revert back into matter again.

A simplified analogy is when an ice cube melts into water, then evaporates into steam. You can re-condense the steam into water, and freeze it back into ice, just using changes in temperature. But the question is - would it be exactly the same ice cube that you started with?

In a nuclear explosion, subatomic energy is released in a destructive and uncontrolled way, but what if you could gently control this process without the damaging effects, releasing the energy and reforming this energy into a new or existing form? It is the difference between spilling a cup of double Espresso with cream & sugar, onto a white shag-pile rug - as opposed to - gently pouring a bottle of mineral water into a mountain stream. The nuclear explosion is the spilled coffee, which, even if you could clean the shag-pile rug, you could never reconstitute the cup of coffee. Whereas, with the bottle of mineral water - if you pour it into the mountain stream - you could go further downstream and fill-up the bottle, again, and have the same amount of water contained

within the same form as before. But then we still come back to the same question as before – is it the same bottle of water that you started with? Clearly it is not, which makes it fatally flawed when dealing with a living organism. However, it is consistent with the axiom that energy cannot be annihilated, just transformed into something else.

So, what gives form ‘Identity’, and how would one re-establish identity after the original form had become pure energy?

For this, we need to understand, that this ‘energy’ underlying ‘superstrings’, is not a fluid thing, but ‘Movement in Action’. This is what spins the ‘Spherical Vortex’, giving it substance. And this ‘Movement’ is generated by ‘Thought’ or ‘Consciousness’. This is the breakthrough where one meets the Mind of God, and the Primordial Sound / Word from which everything originated. It is this ‘Consciousness’ that orders our individual, unique identity - from the physical body we inhabit, to our thoughts and motivations.

Was Jesus able to control these natural forces?

Jesus was known for his healing ministry, which could alleviate suffering on the physical, emotional and spiritual levels. Some of the sick or possessed people He helped, were sometimes able to see that He truly was God, even when some of His own disciples still had their doubts. This could possibly be due to the fact that during healing, the patient’s brainwaves come into sympathetic resonance with that of the healer. Could they actually see His Light at that moment, like a window into a higher dimension?

This form of electromagnetic energy generated by healers from the ‘Universal Energy Field’, has been studied in laboratory conditions and found to be amplified 1000-fold during healing ⁶, without there being any increase in the temperature of the healer’s hands. To understand this concept better, imagine the electromagnetic field of Planet Earth, which protects our fragile biosphere from cosmic rays and meteorites from space. This same image can be applied to the human body, which emits a form of electromagnetic energy called the ‘Human Bio-Energy Field’. This can be brought into resonance with the planet - Schuman Resonance - and can be amplified by conscious connection to higher dimensional energies via ‘Thought Intention’, directed in a state of ‘Unconditional Love’ or ‘Prayer’. Only through humble intention can the energies of the healer and healee be brought into resonance in a way that allows the beneficial effects to flow to the cells of the recipient, and be received in a way that stimulates a self-healing response.

To prove this is really possible, tests have been carried-out in laboratory conditions on many kinds of human tissue, including bone cells and nerve cells. The sublime part is that whilst bone cells took up more calcium to restore them to health, cancer cells were not stimulated. This is the beautiful part of healing modalities - when used ethically from a divine motivation - positive effects are drawn-down from a universal source, and the body’s own healing mechanisms are stimulated to fight off negative effects. This is

believed to be made possible by what is thought to be a network of light called the 'Etheric Template' ⁷, unique to each individual at birth. It is our own personal matrix for optimum functioning, which can be restored by those with the correct training and motivation. This does not mean that we are all born perfect, or will live without illness, because our life challenges are what help us to evolve emotionally and spiritually, and which are surely a part of the reason for our existence. But it does give a pathway to optimal expression of self, no matter what life throws at us.

This Etheric Template brings us back to 'Superstrings', as it is another fractal reflection of the 'Framework of Light' that underpins the workings of the universe. "Let there be Light", said the Lord... *(This shares similarities with the theory of the Holographic Universe.)*

So, it is not so strange that Jesus - God incarnate, could be adept with this 'Universal Light', and even photograph Himself from past death's gates, and then return to make sure this historic act could be preserved by those who loved Him most. In this context, the period after the Resurrection would be the training, along with the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, which helped the disciples to continue His work. And importantly, to encourage them to keep the Shroud safe for future generations when science could understand its relevance more clearly. Jesus' Ascension, would be His return to higher planes of existence, reversing His earlier descent into matter, from a realm of pure spirit, energy or consciousness.



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Transfiguration of Christ, St Peter's Basilica, Rome

So, What can we learn from this most precious of Holy relics?

Modern day healers have grasped the importance of using universal energies wisely. However, in attempts by scientists to harness this form of synergistic energy (which ‘generates’ energy rather than suffering from ‘entropy’), their search for a limitless, free source of energy brings huge risks to the safety of humanity and the planet. Independent scientists have tried to develop ‘Over-Unity Devices’ using spinning magnets, which seem to defy the Laws of Thermodynamics (which say that you cannot get more energy out of a device than you put into it) but sadly, it seems that humanity hasn’t yet gained the maturity to use this potential for the good of mankind. Fears of an infinite energy source being used as a weapon, or changing the economic balance of power, always gets in the way of research into its beneficial effects. But the vital ingredient conventional science always omits, is the part that ‘Consciousness’ plays.

The ‘Experimenter Effect’ demonstrates that the beliefs and wishes of the experimenter always affect the outcome, yet when it comes to the Universal Energy Field, of which we are all a part, it seems that the ‘effects of our thoughts’ are excluded from being considered relevant. But to truly understand the image formation on the Shroud, we must seek, not only to explain the kind* of Light which created the image, (which evidently came from within the body of Jesus), but also - what was he thinking? And ‘how’ was he thinking it, because the evidence of the Shroud and Sudarium both point to Him being physically dead when placed in the tomb. (**I use the word ‘kind’ advisedly, as a laboratory may use a ‘type’ of light, but Jesus always used His light ‘kindly’.*)

The Role of Consciousness in the Resurrection.

So, if reanimating matter into a pre-existing form, requires consciousness as a guiding force, we have to ask – can consciousness survive death? If we are bold enough to look at the studies of Near-Death Experience by respected medical researchers like Dr Raymond Moody⁸, we will see evidence that the soul lives independent from the body after clinical death and can return to the body with recall of events happening during doctors’ frantic attempts to resuscitate the patient. For further evidence and medical research into Near Death Experiences, I would recommend the work of Raymond A. Moody M.D. Ph.D. - Psychiatrist, Dr Melvin Morse – Paediatrician, Dr Michael Sabom – Cardiologist, Dr Michael Grosso Ph.D. – Philosopher, Brian L. Weiss M.D. – Psychiatrist, Dr Kenneth Ring – Psychologist, and Robert Sullivan – Crisis Counsellor for Combat Veterans.

One particularly convincing case from Dr Raymond Moody’s book ‘The Light Beyond’, involved an elderly woman who had been blind since the age of eighteen. Never having seen the advances in medical science with her own eyes, she was later able to accurately describe her surroundings and the medical instruments and techniques used during her resuscitation from a heart attack - much to the amazement of her

physician. Others were able to recall objects on the tops of cupboards in operating theatres, and conversations nurses had in the corridor outside, at a time when there was no brainwave activity and they had been declared clinically dead. It is a beautifully life-affirming area of research, but the most wonderful part is the high proportion of those who have experienced Near-Death who recalled meeting with 'Beings of Light', who talked to them about their lives, before giving them the choice whether to return to their body or stay in 'Heaven'.

So, the idea that the consciousness of a human being can survive death, keeping all its faculties - and even regain those it has lost - is well researched and evidenced. But I would like to leave you with one final thought, which is of the man whose daughter was drowning in a deep, cold, body of water, and he dived into the inky blackness to retrieve her seemingly lifeless body. As he descended into the depths, he was only able to find her because "she was bathed in this white light". He brought her back to the surface and doctors believed she was dead, but they continued to try to resuscitate her due to the knowledge that victims of drowning in cold water, can sometimes be revived long after they would normally be considered brain-dead. Their efforts were rewarded, and they succeeded in reviving her, without any of the expected brain damage. When later interviewed by doctors, she reported a Near Death Experience, at the exact moment when her father saw her glow with light. Did he witness that divine moment when heaven and earth met, leading to the miracle of her return from the brink?

Conclusion.

The above information is drawn from Bio-energy Field Research, Astrophysics, Molecular & Neurobiology, Electrochemical & Electromagnetic sciences, Theology & Philosophy. The understanding of subtle Healing Energies comes from a Christian perspective, but is a cross-cultural phenomenon known throughout the world. I believe the Shroud is relevant to all humans, whatever their scientific or religious persuasion, as it is a truly scientific relic, not solely dependent of Faith, but more richly enjoyed by those who do embrace its miraculous attributes. For ease of reading the above text, I have kept the list of technical sources for the References below, but would like to thank the following for their tireless efforts to shine a light on these complex topics – Barbara Ann Brennan M.S., The NFSH Healing Trust, Raymond Moody M.D. & Deepak Chopra M.D.

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7: Barbara Ann Brennan M.S. – Healer, Psychotherapist, and worked for NASA at the Goddard Space Flight Center following her M.S. in Atmospheric Physics. Teaches Healing Science, exploring the theoretical, physical, energetic, psychological and physiological basis for laying-on of hands and the psychodynamics of the Human Energy Field. '*Hands of Light - A Guide to Healing Through the Human Energy Field*' and '*Light Emerging – The Journey of Personal Healing*'. www.barbarabrennan.com.

8: Dr Raymond Moody M.D., Ph.D. - '*The Light Beyond - The Transformative Power of Near-Death Experiences*' and '*Life After Life*'. Psychiatrist & Philosopher, special study area - the Survival of Bodily Death. In collaboration with Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Cardiologists and Pediatricians, his hospital studies of patients who reported Near Death Experiences included children who were too young to have formed cultural or religious bias. www.lifeafterlife.com.

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