

# The man of the Shroud and Jesus after the scourging: the wounds coincide

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The **Holy Shroud** reread in the light of the **Passion of Christ**: what are the things that unite the Sacred Linen and the chronicle of what happened to Jesus during the Via Crucis? The investigations reported in the book "[Via Sindonis](#)" ([Sagitta](#)) by **Emanuela Marinelli**, **Domenico Repice** are very interesting. Also because they use two great sindonologists: Dr. **Carlo Goldoni**, hematologist, whose studies focus on medical-legal aspects, and prof. **Gino Zaninotto**, historian, Latinist and Greek scholar, on the analysis of sources.

## The wounds on the cheekbone, nose, eyelids

In the image of the face of the Man of the Shroud there are evident **numerous blows attributable to those narrated by the Gospels, suffered by Jesus**: the face was hit by a stick, the trace of which can be seen on the right cheek and on the nose. The right cheekbone has a swelling; the left eyelid has a blood clot. Two streams of blood come out of the nose; under the upper lip other blood stains; his nose is bruised and the tip of him seems to have a slight deviation; his brows are bruised. The eyelids have bruises. He has no appearance or beauty, and does not attract attention (Is 53: 2).

## The harsh scourging

Jesus, we read in the book "Via Sindonis", is charged with the sins of the world. But since only Roman justice has the power to issue a regular and legitimate sentence, he is brought to the imperial procurator. The accusations, even if vehement, appear unrealistic to a man of the law like Pilate, who considers him innocent. And for this he decides for an exemplary punishment: **the harsh Roman scourging was enough. Then he would be released.**

## **The wounds caused by the penetration of thorns**

The body of the Man of the Shroud is almost completely covered in blood. The flagrum is a terrible tool. Numerous blows can be counted and it is clear that that condemned man was scourged naked, standing still, bent over and tied to a low column. **Jesus is then led before the crowd crowned with thorns.**

He has been accused of being the King of the Jews and the Roman soldiers do not miss the opportunity to mock him. **The head of the Man of the Shroud shows an enormous number of wounds** that may have been caused by the penetration of thorns in the flesh, on the nape, but also on the forehead and on the whole head: just like the wounds of Jesus.

## **The punishment is insufficient**

Pilate believed that the punishment would suffice to appease the hatred of the accusers, but he was wrong. The crowd present, stirred up by the leaders, in an even more determined way, asks for his crucifixion. And despite the intervention of his wife Claudia Procula, **Pilate decides to leave Jesus to his fate.**

## **The New Man has no hatred**

Many are responsible for the condemnation of Jesus. Pilate, Caiaphas and Anna, Herod, the crowd ... But no one had realized that, at that moment, it was Jesus himself who issued a condemnation, definitively sanctioning all the deadly structures of the old world. Renewing them through love for all. In silence. It does not defend itself. He has no resentment, much less hate. **It is the inconceivable capacity of the New Man, we read in "Via Sindonis", who begins to shake consciences, bringing down all worldly security.**

## **The killing of truth prelude to suicide**

The longest and darkest day in history has begun, during which man condemns God to death. Darkness envelops hearts and minds. Nobody seems to radically contest this crazy claim, a deceptive illusion of a fake freedom. And many have always worked to carry out this condemnation again in the mirage of an illusory and fatal happiness that brings abuse, destruction, death. **The killing of the truth is a bitter illusion for man, a prelude to his own suicide.**