

body image to lighter parts of the body image. Perhaps, the intensity of the dark striations is a combination of both shadowing of the grooves and discolored fibers in the grooves. I also considered the boundaries between the blood marks and the body image and noted that the dark striations appear to run continuously across the boundaries. It is now apparent that the reason for this is because the dark striations are defined by the grooves of the herringbone weave in both the blood marks and the body image.

My mistake was that I assumed that the discolored fibers which make up the body image were the primary cause of the dark striations. Since this is not the case, it leads me to conclude that the body image itself is so faint that shadows in the grooves of the weave are more intense than the discolored fibers themselves. This is quite surprising to me and like many features of the Shroud begs the question of how a forger could have created something like this. My personal opinion is that it is unlikely that a forger created the Shroud, and there are serious questions in my mind whether a forger could have created something like the Shroud.

Although the basic question that I raised in my paper has now been answered, I am still left with questions about the discolored fibers that make up the body image and their location on the herringbone weave. We know without a doubt that the discolored fibers exist at least on the ridges of the herringbone weave, but what about the grooves of the herringbone weave? I now know that the grooves appear as dark striations at particular magnifications, but are there discolored fibers within the grooves (i.e., on the exposed weft threads)? And if there are discolored fibers within the grooves of the herringbone weave, is the concentration of discolored fibers in the bottom of the grooves the same as on top of the ridges? I am not aware of anyone who has ever addressed this question.



## **Sign from God and the National Shroud of Turin Exhibit**

### **Interview with Myra Kahn Adams by Michael Kowalski**

*Myra Kahn Adams is the Executive Director of “Sign from God,” a charitable tax-deductible U.S. foundation established to facilitate Shroud of Turin education and evangelisation. She is also a political op-ed contributor to The Hill<sup>1</sup> and, since February 2020, has written a weekly Bible study on Townhall.com<sup>2</sup>. Myra’s two books<sup>3</sup>, “Bible Study for Those Who Don’t Read the Bible,” Part 1 and 2, are compilations of her Townhall Bible studies.*

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://thehill.com/?s=Myra+Adams>

<sup>2</sup> <https://townhall.com/columnists/myrakahnadams/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.amazon.com/stores/author/B09FQ9MFMFC>



*From left to right: Michael Kowalski, David Rolfe, David Adams, and Myra Kahn Adams*

*In September, Myra's work as a political journalist brought her and her husband, David, to London. During that visit, they met with BSTS members David Rolfe, Pam and Phil Moon, myself, and my wife Lynne. A year ago, 'Sign from God' launched a project called the 'National Shroud of Turin Exhibit,' which plans to create a world-class, permanent, state-of-the-art Shroud exhibit in the heart of Washington, D.C. This exciting and*

*ambitious project is a significant development that will raise the profile of the Shroud in America and possibly the world.*

### **You were born and raised in the Jewish faith. Why did you decide to convert to Christianity?**

I always start by saying Jesus was Jewish! I've met many Jews who say, "You're kidding me," or "That's your opinion." I reply, "That's a fact and not an opinion." But the fact is there are Jews who do not know that Jesus was Jewish. So, although people say that I'm a Jew who converted to Christianity, I am what is called a 'completed Jew' or a 'Messianic Jew' since I believe that Jesus is the Messiah.

My conversion happened when I was in college. I was born and raised Jewish in a Jewish household, but my family had no active faith. My parents rarely attended Temple, so I grew up without a religion. However, in college, I had a profoundly personal experience that I didn't know how to deal with. Jesus came to me. It was like having a ring through the nose that just pulled me, and I didn't have any opportunity, or even the thought, to say 'No!' It was weird because I knew it was Jesus. I'd never read the Bible in my life, and I'd been to church once with some friends in high school, so I was the least likely candidate for Jesus to come to and pull me towards him in a very intense way. But 'no' was not an option.

I thought a lot about what had happened and started going to a nearby church to figure out what I was supposed to do. I did get baptised but often say, 'I had faith before I had knowledge.' But over the ensuing decades, I started educating myself about Jesus, Christianity, and the Bible. As you can imagine, I got a lot of pushback even though my family was not religious. You don't have to be religious to be culturally Jewish, and if you leave 'the tribe,' you are considered a 'traitor' or a 'black sheep,' so I had to deal with that, and I'm still dealing with it.

From 1975 to 1985, I thought I was the only Jew in the world who believed in Jesus since I had never met another one. But I've since met a handful of other Jewish believers who came to Christ around that time who told me they thought the same thing, so I know my thinking was not insane!

It's been a long journey leading me to where I am. I'm the least likely candidate in the world to write a weekly Bible study, which I've been doing for four years on a conservative political website called Townhall.com. It started in February 2020 but was linked to a Shroud article I'd written in Easter 2019. The article generated reader traffic, and the people who run the website asked if I would write a faith piece every Sunday. At first, I thought, 'Me? I don't think so!' but one thing led to another. In my Bible studies, I've done as much promotion about the Shroud as I can, especially at Easter, which seems to generate two different kinds of reader comments. One comment is that 'it's fake' and the other is 'I don't need the Shroud to believe in Jesus'. I love that comment and always answer, 'Maybe you don't need it, but I believe the Shroud is for the 'Doubting Thomases' of our time.' There are people with no faith who learn about the Shroud and then have come to Christ. It's a great evangelisation tool.

### **Can you tell us about the organisation 'Sign from God' which you co-founded?**

In the summer of 2017, my colleague Russ Breault and I wanted to set up a ministry focused on Shroud education. Russ is a well-known Shroud speaker, and his organisation is called Shroud Encounter. We didn't yet have a name for our new ministry. Yet, two weeks later, when I was on a flight across the U.S. at 30,000 feet, the phrase 'Sign from God' popped into my head. Instantly, I knew that had to be the organisation's name, and the domain was available! When I told Russ, he said, "Myra – that is a Sign from God because the Shroud is a sign from God!"

Then, in November of 2017, the Museum of the Bible opened in Washington, D.C. I went to the opening with my husband David, and we walked around this beautiful massive museum near the Capitol but saw nothing about Shroud. So, I thought, "This has got to change!" Then, in May 2018, I ran into someone I knew at the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast – another sign from God – who happened to work with the Museum of the Bible. Her name was Lisa Rowan, and she told me the museum had considered a Shroud exhibit, but the idea was dormant. Lisa introduced me to the museum leadership, and that's when my 'crusade' started to convince the museum to hold an exhibit about the Shroud of Turin.

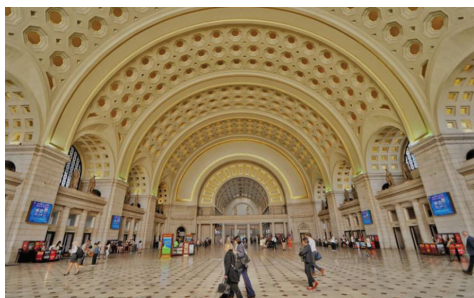
Fast forward to February 26, 2022, when the Museum of the Bible's Shroud exhibit opened and was scheduled to close on July 31. Initially, it was supposed to open in January 2021 but was delayed a year due to COVID. Sadly, February 26 was when Russia invaded Ukraine, which made us all think, "This is a sign – something is going on here."

The museum didn't do any advertising or marketing, but the exhibit still brought in 80,000 patrons, each paying the \$20 museum entry fee. Thankfully, the exhibition received much press when it opened.

Although the exhibit was very successful, the museum had other exhibits lined up and couldn't extend it. The curator also decided against having a permanent Shroud exhibit

since reconfiguring the space needed would have taken much time and money. That is when *Sign From God* birthed an organisation called *National Shroud of Turin Exhibit* <sup>4</sup> to build a permanent Shroud exhibit in Washington, D.C. This organisation has a team of fourteen, including myself, comprising not only our *Sign From God* group but also other leading Shroud advocates, researchers, and devotees. We are a ‘Who’s Who’ of the best people, and I believe it’s another ‘sign from God’ that we’ve been able to put together such a prestigious, talented team. <sup>5</sup>

The website launched last December, and miracles have happened, left and right. In March 2023, we began with our first “mini-exhibit” – a life-sized Turin-produced Shroud replica on loan from the Museum of the Bible that is ongoing at the Catholic Information Center (CIC) <sup>6</sup> in Washington, D.C. (In July, Roger and Greer Kenworthy, owners of Abba Oil Christian Products <sup>7</sup> donated the funds for us to purchase the replica from the museum.) Then, throughout 2023, we hosted three prestigious Shroud speaker events <sup>8</sup> at CIC. Also, notably, three of our team members represented our organisation with three presentations at World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal. Amazing things have happened, one after another. That is how we know the Lord has a plan. He is paving the way for our permanent Shroud exhibit to come to fruition and make an impact. In September, we identified some outstanding exhibit space and now must raise the funds to make it happen.



*Union Station, Washington D.C.*

The space we are targeting is at a ‘monument’ in Washington called Union Station – an immense transportation hub at the foot of Capitol Hill. Everyone knows where it is, and I believe it is “sign from God” since I was at a Shroud event when told to check out the space. So, we trust the Lord and tell everyone to stay tuned.

**I had the pleasure of meeting you and your husband David when you visited England in September, and you mentioned then that you’d noticed a real upsurge in interest in the Shroud in the USA.**

That is so true. Some of your BSTS members might already subscribe to Joe Marino’s newsletter, which he publishes nearly once a week and covers all the Shroud happenings. From Joe’s newsletter, you can tell there is a renaissance of Shroud activity, with new

---

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.nationalshroudofturinexhibit.org/>

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.nationalshroudofturinexhibit.org/exhibit\\_team](https://www.nationalshroudofturinexhibit.org/exhibit_team)

<sup>6</sup> <https://cicdc.org/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.abbaoil.com/>

<sup>8</sup> [https://www.nationalshroudofturinexhibit.org/exhibit\\_news](https://www.nationalshroudofturinexhibit.org/exhibit_news)

exhibits, speakers, documentaries, art, and articles happening around the country. Interest in the Shroud has never been greater, and to quantify that, I asked Barrie Schwartz, who runs [Shroud.com](http://Shroud.com). He told me that the website has never had as many hits as it had this last Easter.

Something is happening that is facilitating more interest in the Shroud. The general response we hear is no longer, 'It's a fake – go away.' Instead, more people believe something about the Shroud is unexplainable. To that point, the name of our future exhibit is 'Shroud of Turin: World's Greatest Mystery,' and it is the 'mystery' that propels interest in the Shroud.

With all the tumult in the world, people are losing hope. It's as if the world is on fire. Yet, people with faith can trust in the Lord, and knowing He is in control gives us a sense of serenity. There is a master plan, and central to that plan is a resurrected Jesus Christ. I believe the Shroud shows us that the man it wrapped was Jesus Christ, a nanosecond before His resurrection.

**You've said in the past that technology is the Shroud's best friend. Would you like to see a future examination of the Shroud?**

Absolutely! You could say the modern age of the Shroud started in 1898 when the new technology of photography was applied to the Shroud. What happened? The photo-negative image developed in the darkroom and transformed how people see the Shroud. That photo-negative image is now seen so often that some people think this is what the Shroud looks like. Of course, the photo-negative image is easier to understand, which is why people can relate to it, especially the Holy Face, which has become the symbol of the Shroud. That 19<sup>th</sup>-century technology transformed our view of the Shroud back in 1898.

Then, in the 1970s, John Jackson and Eric Jumper discovered that the Shroud had 3-dimensional information encoded when they examined it with a newly developed image analyser. That uncovered one of the biggest mysteries of the Shroud, which is that this 2-dimensional cloth produces a 3-D image. Technology helped to reveal that mystery, followed by all the STURP testing in 1978, which at the time was state-of-the-art.

I believe the only reason we haven't found more of the Shroud's mysterious properties is because there hasn't been any recent hands-on testing. Consider that 1978 is ancient times as far as technology is concerned. Thus, imagine what we might find if scientists could apply some of today's equipment and test theories about image formation.

That leads us to ask why there has not been any *official* 21<sup>st</sup>-century testing, which is another story! When the STURP team examined the Shroud in 1978, they concluded in 1981 that it "...was not the product of an artist." They wrote: "The image is an ongoing mystery, and until further chemical studies are made, perhaps by this group of scientists, or perhaps by some scientists in the future, the problem remains unsolved."

Unfortunately, 'officially' such studies have not happened.

But what if tests using the latest technology revealed that beyond a shadow of a doubt, the image on the Shroud was not made by human hands? What would that mean to people of faith and to the Church itself? At the moment, faith makes the difference between whether or not someone believes in Jesus. However, what if there was scientific proof that the Shroud is the burial cloth of Jesus – that it bears the marks of his torment and suffering as recorded in the gospels? And, what if there was undisputed evidence that Jesus was resurrected – with the Shroud as the world’s ‘first selfie’? If scientific testing were to prove that Jesus’s resurrection is undebatable, what would that mean to humanity? The answer is that it would change everything since ‘faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen,’ as written in Hebrews 11:1. Therefore, I often wonder if the Church wants to keep ‘evidence not seen.’ Perhaps that is why they have shut it off to scientists and testing utilising new technology.

**You’ve mentioned that you are moving forward with your plans for a permanent Shroud exhibit. Do you have a target for when you would like it to open?**

I wish we did! We have identified the space at Union Station and are talking to partners about financing. But before we can open the exhibit, we must first sign a lease. Therefore, we need partners to help us secure the space, build out the exhibit, and then open and sustain it with the proper marketing and advertising support. Initially, I estimate we will need about \$1.5 million. We know that we will attract donors who believe as we do that a permanent high-tech exhibit about the Shroud in Washington, D.C., will impact the people of our nation and the world for His glory.

Whenever I mention to anyone that we’re considering having a Shroud exhibit at Union Station, they get excited and tell me, ‘That’ll be great!’ So the enthusiasm is there. The National Shroud of Turin Exhibit will happen with God’s timing. He knows the opening date but has yet to send us the memo.

In the meantime, our organisation has many exciting events planned for 2024. Stay tuned because we have some big news coming up that we’ll be able to announce at the beginning of February. This news involves one of your near and dear comrades from the BSTS, and we expect it will generate national and international media coverage.

To repeat, everything our team is doing is for His glory – the reason we exist. The National Shroud of Turin Exhibit is a project of *Sign from God*, a Shroud education ministry. We are educating people about the mysteries of the Shroud, tied into the Bible, faith, history, and science. There’s nothing in the world like the Shroud. It is a ‘Sign from God’, evidence of His greatest miracle – the resurrection of Jesus.

You can find out more information about *Sign from God* and the *National Shroud of Turin Exhibit* by visiting the links below:

<https://www.signfromgod.org/>

<https://www.nationalshroudofurinexhibit.org/>

myraadams01@gmail.com