

BIBLICAL REFERENCE TO THE IMAGE?

A Comment by Dorothy Crispino, Indiana, USA

Editors Note: In the August *Shroud News* I raised the question, following a discussion with Shroud experts in the USA, about the translation of Galatians 3:1 perhaps referring to Paul having the Shroud in his possession *with the image on it*. That article also contains some comments by Sydney theologian, William Weston, and some random translations of the passage from various editions of the Bible. The following article by scholar, Dorothy Crispino, results from my invitation to readers to comment on the matter.

For the moment I just want to add some references to the Gal. 3:1 passage, in response to your mention in the August *Shroud News*, pp 16-17. I have had this question "under my hat" for four or five years, without finding any exegete willing to say, "Yes, *proegraphie* could very well mean the 'painted' image on the Shroud". So I am very happy that you have brought it to the attention of a large audience.

Please, though, let's not get carried away (as suggested by William Weston) and say that Paul was "carrying the Shroud on his own body", which is pure nonsense. Where did he put it when he was shipwrecked seven times, and the innumerable times he was scourged and stoned, and where did he put it while he was in prison?

As for the cloak Paul requests Timothy to bring him, the word in Latin is *paenultun* and in Greek *phelonym*, which is the name for the travelling cloak, which has a hood. To suggest it might be the Shroud is letting the imagination run off by itself instead of looking things up.

There is, instead, the venerable "Petrine tradition", dating back to early times. This claims that Peter had the Shroud with him in Antioch, where he was bishop for many years. And since Paul visited Peter and stayed there in Antioch for some time, IF it is true that Peter had the Shroud in Antioch, it is possible that when some of the Galatians came to confer with the two Apostles, it is logical to suppose that they were shown the Shroud; and this would be the basis for Paul's remark.

I am often arrested by a passage in the Apocalypse, 19:13 "and his garment was splattered with blood; and he is named Word of God." In Greek it says he was "wrapped around" with a *himation* splattered with blood. This "wrapped around" is not the same term that John uses when he describes the burial, but then, the Apocalypse is pushed several degrees beyond the earthly.

Below are some extracts from my notes on Gal. 3:1; the Gideon Bible translations are interesting:

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gemalt = painted

peint = painted

Père Dubarle: *dépeint* = painted

Zerwick Greek Analysis: *depictus est* = painted

It seems that those authorities who want to translate literally whether they understand it or not, do use the word "painted".

Then there are always the translators who have to interpret, or explain for the poor ignorant public, what seems to them to be a vague or incorrect term used by the evangelists; and so the Gospel According to the Translator is what we get...

Notes:

Trilingual Gideon Bible:

O ihr unverständigen Galater! Wer hat euch bezaubert, denen doch Jesus Christus vor die Augen GEMALT was als der Gekreuzigte? (Trans by M. Luther)

O Galates dépourvus de sens! qui vous a fascinés, vous, aux yeux de qui Jesus-Christ a été PEINT comme crucifié? (Trans from Greek by Louis Segond, 1977)

Père Dubarle: O Galates... vous aux yeux de qui le Christ a été DEPEINT crucifié

Cramon Bible, trans. from Gr: vous qui avez eu sous les yeux L'IMAGE de Jésus-Christ crucifié

Revised Standard (Protestant): you before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified

Raymond Brown, SS, in Jerome Commentary: PORTRAYED crucified before your very eyes. Paul had preached Christ crucified (I Cor. 1:23 if) so eloquently as to "placard" him before the Galatians, perhaps like Moses with the serpent of bronze.

Zerwick, Analysis Phil.: DEPICTUS EST

Hickie, Greek-English Lexicon: to depict or portray openly

Merck, N.T. Graece et Latine: ante quorum oculos Jesus Christus praescriptus est

BIBLICAL REFERENCE TO THE IMAGE? (cont'd)

From Holzner: Paul de Tarse, p. 566

AD 42 - Paul founds church at Antioch

48-49 - argues with Peter at Antioch. Peter had "been there for some time"

49-52 - Paul's voyage in Galatia

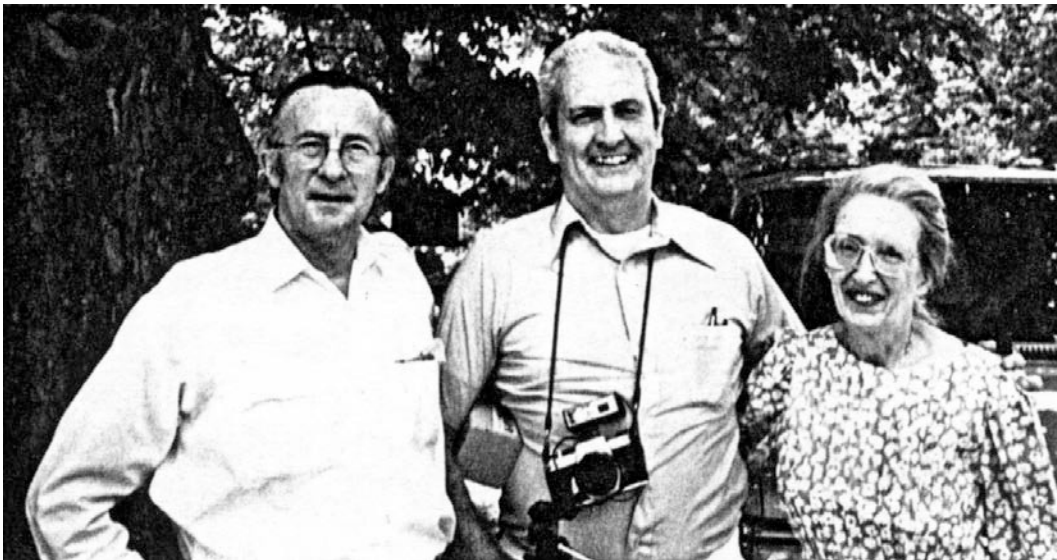
54-55 - Epistle to the Galatians

Maurus Green recalls the Petrine Tradition; that Peter had the Shroud while he was bishop at Antioch; he "wore it when he made ordinations"

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Fr Peter Little of Sydney also comments:

Referring to your note in Shroud News No 48 that St Paul could be referring to the Shroud in Galatians, I have just looked up *Grimm's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*. His entry under *proegraphie*: "before whose eyes was portrayed the picture of Jesus Christ crucified ... the attentive contemplation of which ought to have been a preventive against that bewitchment etc." How well that squares with the reference's being to the Shroud!



Rex Morgan with STURP member, Kevin Moran and Dorothy Crispino,
Editor of Shroud Spectrum International