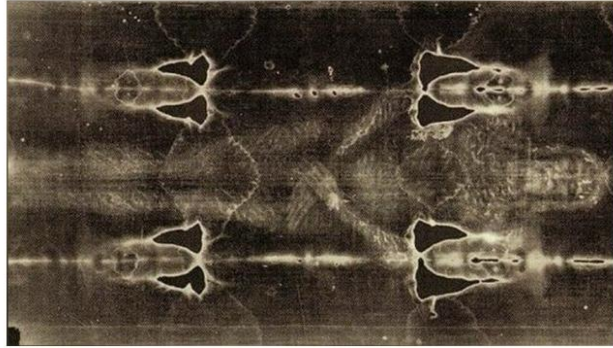


# Building Block of the Catholic Faith #1: The Shroud of Turin

Apr 25, 2026 | Blog, Book Review, Catholicism | 0 comments

What are the odds that the Shroud of Turin is not the actual burial cloth of Jesus Christ, Son of God, risen from the dead?

According to theologian and historian Dr. Jeremiah Johnston, the probability that the Shroud of Turin belongs to any other man than Jesus is a staggering 1 in 200 billion!



In his 2025 interview with Michael Knowles, Johnston stated that the mathematical and archaeological evidence is so overwhelming that, where he was once a skeptic, he now firmly believes the Shroud of Turin, is true evidence of Jesus' crucifixion, burial, and resurrection. How could Dr. Johnston be so sure, I wondered? After all, the Shroud of Turin, which is now located in the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Turin, Italy, is one of the most controversial religious artifacts in history...and the most studied.

## STURP (1978): The First Major Scientific Study

Back in October 1978, when I was 25 years old, the first in-depth, hands-on scientific study of the Shroud of Turin was conducted. The Shroud of Turin Research Project (STURP) involved about 30 scientists from various disciplines and was headed by American scientists John Jackson and Eric Jumper. The team concluded the following:

- The image on the 14-foot-long linen cloth was neither painted nor dyed.
- The image was a negative image of a man who appeared to have been crucified.
- The bloodstains were of human blood.
- But they could not determine how the image was imprinted on the cloth.

## Radiocarbon Dating (1988) vs WAXS Dating (2022)

A later study in 1988, which used radiocarbon dating on a linen sample cut from one corner of the Shroud of Turin, yielded a date between A.D. 1260 and 1390. This finding led many to conclude that the Shroud was a medieval forgery and could not be the burial cloth of Jesus. However, researchers and critics have argued that the corner was likely part of a mended piece of the shroud that had been woven into the original linen. In fact, a 2022 analysis by wide-angle X-ray scattering (WAXS) put the date of the Shroud within the first century A.D. and suggested that the 1988 sample had been contaminated by the environment.

## The Overwhelming Evidence Provided by Modern Technology

Indeed, there is now so much evidence that Dr. Jeremiah Johnston has stated emphatically that the authenticity of the Shroud of Turin is now "beyond all doubt." Johnson said, "I believe that based on the evidence, 102 scientific disciplines have spent over 600,000 hours of scientific study on the Shroud of Turin. And the great majority of them have concluded the shroud is indeed 2,000 years old." In his interview with Michael Knowles he outlines the data. He demonstrates the match between the Shroud and the Sudarium of Oviedo, believed to be the head cloth that was placed over the face of Jesus after His death. Remember how in John 20:6-7, Simon Peter "went into the tomb, saw the linen cloth lying on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloth but rolled up in a place by itself." It's clear that the sudarium, the face cloth, was found in a different place from the shroud, the larger linen that had wrapped the body.

And here's another interesting fact: The blood on the Shroud is of Type AB, matching the AB blood found in all of the Eucharistic miracles!



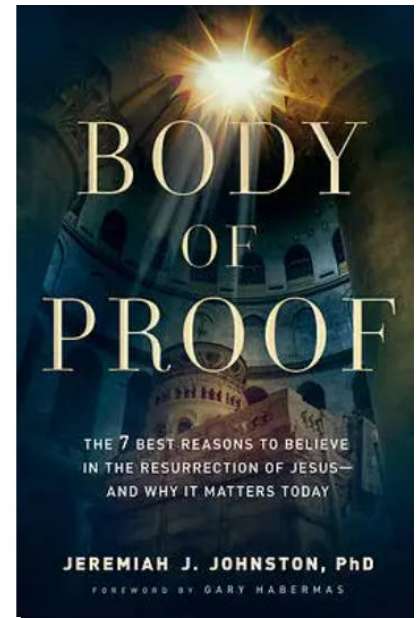
## Link to the Movie-Length Interview

If you are hesitant about watching the entire interview with Michael Knowles and Dr. Jeremiah Johnston because it runs for 1 hour and 36 minutes, let me assure you that it absolutely will be worth your time! Think of it as a feature movie, and be prepared to be riveted by what you hear and see. Here's the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OEIbxDpsqpw>

## Book Recommendation: Body of Proof

Finally, I like to recommend the book that Dr. Jeremiah Johnston wrote and referred to during the interview. It's entitled *Body of Proof: The 7 Best Reasons to Believe in the Resurrection of Jesus—and Why It Matters Today*. It's available in paperback, ebook, and audiobook versions. I just finished listening to the audiobook version, and it was amazing! If you want proof of the death, burial, and physical bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ, so that you can witness to others, *Body of Proof* is the book for you.



+ **Christ is risen!**

+ **He is risen indeed!**

+ **Alleluia**

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