

## NEW TESTAMENT DOES NOT SAY BURIAL CLOTH WAS KEPT

The Turin Shroud is the most famous relic in the world. Millions believe that it is the burial cloth of Jesus Christ bearing his crucified and bloodied image. The cloth is kept at Turin in Italy. The cloth is an enigma. Many say it is a miracle. If we do not know how to make something exactly like it, that is not to be wondered at. There are so many variables and possibilities and it aged, it was made so so long ago, and suffered so many chemical changes that we may never know for sure. Even if we make a perfect shroud it still does not prove that our method was deployed to make the Turin Shroud. Anybody declaring the cloth a miracle is a fraud pure and simple.

If the Shroud of Turin existed in New Testament times it would have been mentioned in the New Testament. The writers had to contend with flesh-haters who insisted that Jesus was a spirit, an immaterial being and not a man. Yet the only weapon they employed against them was their testimony. If they had the Shroud they could have used that and written about it for hard evidence is better than testimony.

If the apostles were afraid to use the Shroud as ammunition against heretics in case something would happen to it then that says a lot about their confidence in Jesus. It would be ascribing incompetence and stupidity to him – hardly consistent with their being the witnesses appointed by God to identify Jesus as being the saviour and Messiah. There are countless ways in which you can avoid harm coming to a relic and still let enough people know of its existence.

If it is true that the cloth did originate in the time Jesus allegedly lived then perhaps it was the weapon the likes of Paul and some others used to verify that the risen Jesus they saw in their visions was a real person though nobody else thought so. Perhaps the Christian tradition was made to fit the Shroud and inspired by it.

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Still Standing on Sinking Sand, Farrell Till,  
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Why I Don't Buy the Resurrection Story by Richard Carrier  
[www.infidels.org/library/modern/richard\\_carrier/resurrection/index.shtml](http://www.infidels.org/library/modern/richard_carrier/resurrection/index.shtml)

A Naturalistic Account of the Resurrection, Brian Marston  
<http://www.phlab.missouri.edu/~c570529/PhilosoStop/resurrection.html>

This site argues that somebody unknown stole the body to stop the apostles stealing it or venerating it and lost it and argues that the witnesses of the risen Jesus were lying because no effort was made by them to preserve first hand reports of what was seen and how and when. It argues that since the apostles had followed Jesus at great personal sacrifice and now he was dead they invented the resurrection to save face. Also the inclination of people at the time to believe in dying and rising gods may have overwhelmed them and made them lie to themselves that Jesus had risen. He answers the objection that a lie like that would need a large-scale conspiracy for lots of lies start off with a small group of people and if the lies are attractive other people will believe them. Plus he says that Jesus could have rigged events to make sure he would fulfil Old Testament prophecy so the Christians should not be saying the gospel story is true for it fits old prophecy. I would add that owing to the total absence of evidence that Jesus was nailed to the cross and the fact that the gospels never say any of his friends were close to the cross that Jesus might have been tied to it and the Christians later assumed he was nailed because the psalm seemed to say so.

The Case For Christianity Examined: Truth or Lies?  
[www.askwhy.co.uk/awstruth/ChristianCase.html](http://www.askwhy.co.uk/awstruth/ChristianCase.html)

Historical Evidence and the Empty Tomb Story, A Reply to William Lane Craig by Jeffrey Jay Lowder  
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Did Jesus Really Rise from the Dead? Dan Barker versus Mike Horner  
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[www.infidels.org/library/modern/richard\\_carrier/indef/4e.html](http://www.infidels.org/library/modern/richard_carrier/indef/4e.html)

Did a Rolling Stone Close Jesus' Tomb by Amos Kloner  
[www.bib-arch.org/barso99/roll1.html](http://www.bib-arch.org/barso99/roll1.html)

Who Moved the Stone? Review by Steven Carr,  
[www.bowness.demon.co.uk/stone.htm](http://www.bowness.demon.co.uk/stone.htm) This tells us that if you assume that two contradictory books are true in all they say and try to make them fit you will manage it but the result will be contrived. You are really still assuming they are true and have no proof for it. This observation should be a warning to the fundamentalist Christians who say there are no contradictions in the Bible. They have no faith in the Bible at all for they are only assuming it is right. If they really believed, they would not need to work out and produce laughable far-fetched ways of reconciling Bible contradictions. They wouldn't do that with anything else but the Bible.

Morison claims that Peter's clever and unbiased mind was behind the first Gospel, that of Mark. But Morison only assumes this for there is no evidence that the gospel is clever and unbiased or that Peter had much if anything at all to do with it. Morison then tries to make out that the claim of Luke that the apostles waited seven weeks before saying Jesus had risen from the dead is too detrimental to the evidence for the resurrection to be true. In other words, the evidence for the resurrection is right and any evidence against it is wrong! That is bias if I ever seen it. He then makes out that these things which undermine the pro-resurrection evidence prove it happened. So the evidence against the resurrection makes the evidence for it stronger! How ridiculous.



