

Blood Marks on Shroud are not consistent with a body being laid in it

The Journal of Forensic Sciences reports (2018) that crime scene scenario testing found that blood was put on a model standing up and touched to the cloth. Concerning forensic scientist Dr Matteo Borrini (a devout Catholic) of Liverpool John Moores University and Luigi Garlaschelli of the University of Pavia: "They have used modern forensic techniques to show that apparent blood spatters on the shroud could only have been produced by someone moving to adopt different poses – rather than lying still, in the manner of a dead and yet to be resurrected Messiah." They used a volunteer standing on a shroud type cloth to see if they could use that method to copy the shroud "blood" marks.

The model had to change poses to get all the marks on. A BPA Blood Pattern Analysis for the side wound was performed. "The BPA of blood visible on the frontal side of the chest (the lance wound) shows that the shroud represents the bleeding in a realistic manner for a standing position while the stains at the back—of a supposed post-mortem bleeding from the same wound for a supine corpse—are totally unrealistic." Totally is a very strong word. No doubt here!

And "If the rivulets on the frontal image are roughly consistent with bleeding in a standing position, the hypothesis of a post mortem bleeding to generate the lines on the lumbar area ("belt of blood") seems to be unrealistic."

And there is no room for doubt, "the direction of the short blood rivulets on the back of the hand would require a standing subject with arms nailed at a 45° angle; also in this case, the theory of post mortem bleeding in a reclining subject needs to be rejected." In other words, it only makes sense if somebody was standing in that position and the cloth touched to them. It refutes the idea of the marks having been printed by a body laid out in the cloth.

A corpse laying down did not make the marks. "This is the kind of forensic work done all the time in police investigations" says forensic scientist Matteo Borrini, John Moores University, Liverpool. They examined how gravity works on similar marks and found the blood was indeed pulled down from an upright model or statue. No pose can be determined from the marks which is another proof that patching was done. The model was touched to the cloth not all at once but part by part to create a more impressive artistic look. Worse, expert Jonathyn Priest of Bevel, Gardner and Associates Inc. in Norman, Oklahoma said the amount of blood at the wrists if it came from the body of Jesus would probably mean he was not dead for his heart was beating. He added, "The fact that flowing bloodstains exist at all on a deceased body that was reportedly cleaned also raises questions." I wish to add that the need to show a lot of blood at the wrist is about pleasing devotees of the five wounds of Jesus. Little blood at those points would have made the image defeat its purpose: to become a popular pious fraud.

The splatters were found to have fallen vertically on the cloth by somebody standing in it.

Believers in the shroud act like addicts and will always claim that there is blood on the Turin Shroud and that it is the blood of Jesus Christ. Let it be a warning about how miracles affect minds even smart ones.

That the research made it into the Journal of Forensic Sciences is ammunition for those who hold that none of that is opinion but as close to fact as you get.