

Jesus' Wounds

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I- Introduction

Jesus' suffering was incalculable. So many were the wounds on his body that this fact led us to present them according to a scientific view point. The blood shed by the Lord, as a man, must be remembered daily, so we will not forget that all this suffering was on our benefit.

That our faith be renewed in the joy of the resurrection, an authentic evidence of his divinity as a Christ.

II- Materials and Method

For the purpose of this paper, we used pictures of The Shroud of Turim, drawings and schemes, corpse and a model. We divided the study in main parts:

1- A Master's skeleton

According to the prophecies, “ not one of his bones will be fractured”. The Holy Linen reveals this almost impossible fact.

Many thorns of the crown, which had the shape of the bottom of a basket, reached Jesus' skull confirming both Saint Brigida's and Saint Elizabeth's visions.

The horseshoe nails, approximately 15 cm long, passed through his hands in the so-called place of “Desdof”, but without fracturing them. The same happened with the horseshoes on the feet and with the lance on the thorax. The Shroud of Turim reveals that Jesus' body had a strong, healthy and symmetrical skeleton. The body belonged to an individual with wide and long bones, approximately 1meter and 80 centimeters high,

weighing 78 kilos and who had a great vitality and well-structured. “The Non Communitis Ex EO – “Not one of his bones will be fractured” (Jo 19,36).

The Wounds of the Scourge

The sentence which defined Jesus’ condemnation was the answer he gave to Pilate:

“- Are you a King?
- Yes I am a king.”

Pilate decided to scourge Jesus. His body did not sweat; it exuded (blood and sweat). His heart in tachycardia, the legs were kept separate a little so the condemned would not fall down. The whip was a short rawhide strap, a metal handle covered with leather, almost 30 cm long. One of its end had three 40 cm -leather straps with two lead balls each. Usually, the condemned were whipped 39 times plus one. Jesus was whipped more than a hundred times.

In these case, the heart beat generally oscillate between 170 beats per minute, the pressure goes up to 210mm of water and there is liberation of adrenaline followed by acetilcoline causing total exhaustion.

On the Shroud, we can clearly count some whips: Shoulders and shoulder- blade – 54; Waist and kidneys – 29; Abdomen – 6; Thorax- 14; Right leg (dorsal) – 18; Left leg (dorsal) – 22; Left leg (frontal)- 11; Right arm (both sides) 20; Left arm (both sides) – 14; Ears – 2; Testicles – 2; Gluteal area – 14. We should add to these injuries some light wounds and cuts caused the leather straps of the whip.

2 – Wounds on the Head

The Shroud of Turim gives us the opportunity to review the coincidences with the data from the Gospel and with the historical documents. From the pores on Jesus’ head it came out blood and sweat in Getsêmani, hours before he surrender to his enemies. This phenomenon is called “hematidrose” (Lc 22, 43-44). “ After the scourge, they take His

clothes off again, make a royal crown with thorns and place it violently on His head". (Mt 27,28).

Afterwards they place a cane in His right hand...and the farce begins. " Hail, King of the Jews!"

And they slapped him on His face, they spit on his face and hit him on the head (Mt 27; Mc 15; Jo 18,1-3). The crown had the shape of the bottom of a basket and covered all Jesus' head. More than 70 thorns pierced His head. In this condition, He was put in a place called Gabbatá (Jo 19,13).

There were wounds all over His head, mainly on the forehead, right eyebrow, right zygomatic area, lower lip, nape of the neck and nose. "Happy are the people who live under my face" – Psalm 89.

3 – Wounds on the shoulders

After all the mockery, and the cruel crowning with thorns, Pilate signed Jesus' condemnation, Jesus' death.

It was written on the signboard: "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews – Iesus Nazaraenus Rex Iudaeotum." .

The gallows were tied up to Jesus' arms and He should take them to the place of the execution.

The wood was approximately 1meter and 70 cm. long, 14cm wide and weighed more than 50 kilos.

The way of the Cross reveals three falls and after the last one He could not stand up anymore. Simon from Cirene helped Jesus to carry the wood.

Two serious wounds were caused by the gallows. One was on left scapular area and the other on the right one. One wound had a 12cm diameter, a dark center and skimoses around and loss of skin in the center. The right wound is a little smaller but with the same characteristics. The wounds are evidences that during the way to the Cross Jesus' arms were in an abduction position, i.e., they were lifted and kept far from the axillas. This way Jesus walked towards the Golgota.

4- Wounds on the knees

Tradition tells us that Jesus fell three times before arriving at the Calvary.

These falls caused some wounds with irregular boards on the kneecap area.

Jesus' left knee presents a more severe open sore, a little to an upper position and to the external side, with two round open sores with 2 cm of diameter on the lateral area. The right knee presents less evident wounds and less in number. The knees show us evidence of whipping, marks of lead balls, laceration of the falls.

5- Wounds on the hands

During His advent in the supper room, Jesus told the apostles “ Videte manus meas et pedes meos, quia ego sum - see my hands and feet; it is really me.”

Jesus was nailed on the transverse pole of the Cross, gallows, with two nails which pierced his hands on the carpus area, passing through the following bones: semilunar, pyramidal, capitato and hamato – Destot's area.

The human hand is divided in: carpus, metacarpus and phalanxes. Carpus or fist is the first anatomic part of the hand. After nailing the hands, they set the stipes (vertical pole of the Cross) and then they nailed the feet.

6- Wounds on the feet

The Shroud clearly shows the left foot lying on the right foot and this latter one on the wood. Jesus remained nailed on the Cross with a single nail. This nail went through the second and third metatarsus, leaving a blood stain which covers all the surface of the foot. There were injuries in the muscles, blood vessels and nerves which caused the blood to drip on the stipes, wasting the blood of a just.

7- Wound on the thorax

At three o'clock in the afternoon, probably April 7th, Friday, of the year 30 Jesus died, according to Saint John. This was Isaiah's prophecy long before that: "It was our illnesses that he took with Him, it was our pains He was carrying with Him..." (Is. 53,4-8).

John, the friend evangelist, says: "Jesus bent His head, handed over His spirit and died" (Jo. 19,30).

To confirm the Master's death, a soldier stabbed the right side of His body with a lance from where blood and water dripped. (Jo.19,31-34).

The shroud of Turin reveals a 4cm long and 1,5cm wide wound. The lance has injured the skin, the fat, the muscles, the fascia, the pleura, the lungs, the pericardium, the cardiac muscle and the right atrium of the heart. This wound produced venous blood and pleural and pericardium liquids. Many writers are thankful to the soldiers for having confirmed Jesus' death.

8- The Invisible wound

Jesus accepted to be born, to live and to die on the Earth as a man. The historical reports and the New Testament reveals a Jesus who did not laugh so often and who was constantly caught crying. A pure, friendly, loving man who only taught the good. Jesus had said to His apostles: "My soul will be sad until my death."

Where were his so many friends?

And the gratitude of those who He cured? And the apostles? Were they hiding because of shame? How sad it was to Jesus' heart! They had been together day and night and they have witnessed too many incredible miracles to end up like this...

What is a relief to us, as Christians, is to know about Jesus' resurrection and to have the privilege of being able to contemplate The Shroud of Turin, a remembrance of a real friend.

III- Conclusion

Throughout these long years of studies, I concluded that both the writers as well as the historians disagreed in relation to the dates and to Jesus' life. However, they all had something in common: Jesus was a good man. On Earth, he only taught about love and the good. He died under great torture, dripped His blood for us and, thanks to the Shroud of Turin, we were able to reproduce Jesus' wounds anatomically.

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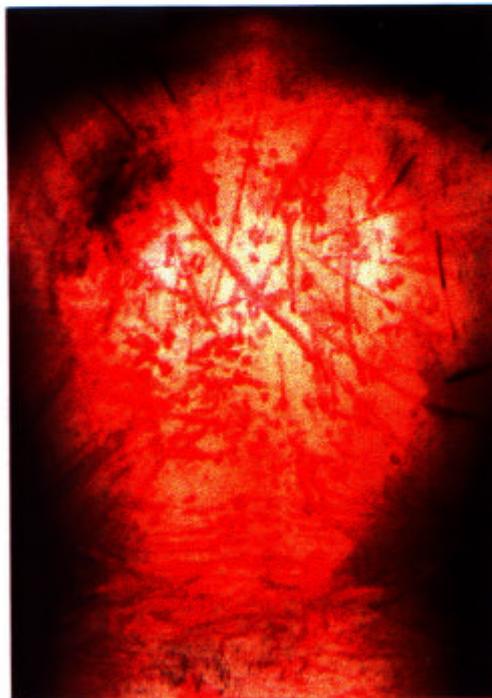
Brasil

<http://www.santo.sudario.nom.br/>

WOUNDS OF THE SCOURGE



DORSAL REGION ON THE SHROUD



DORSAL REGION ON THE JESUS

TR. R. R. R.

WOUNDS ON THE HEAD

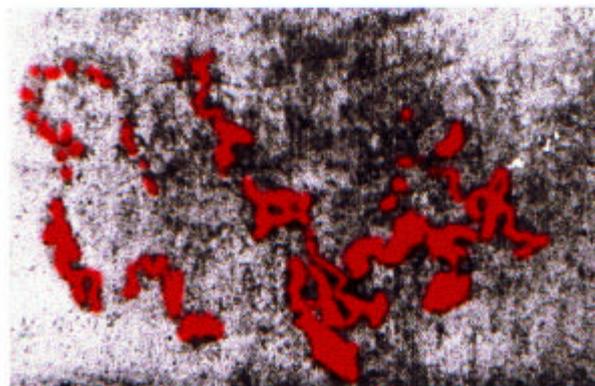


ANATOMY SHOWING THE PRINCIPAL FACIAL VESSELS
TOUCHED BY THE JESUS' CROWN

WOUNDS ON THE HEAD



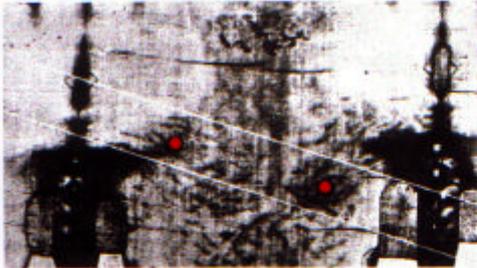
FRONTAL REGION



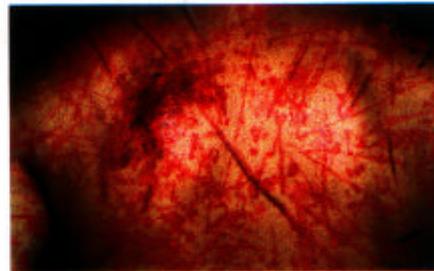
OCCIPITAL REGION

Therapist

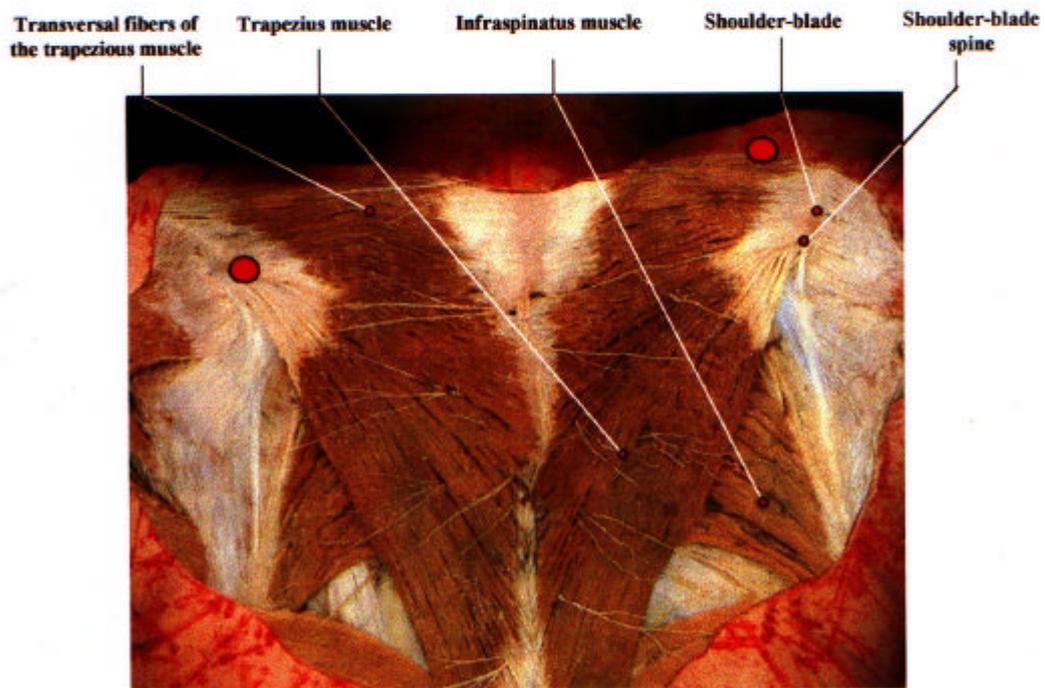
WOUNDS ON THE SHOULDERS



OBLIQUE POSITION OF JESUS' SHOULDERS WOUNDS ON THE SHROUD



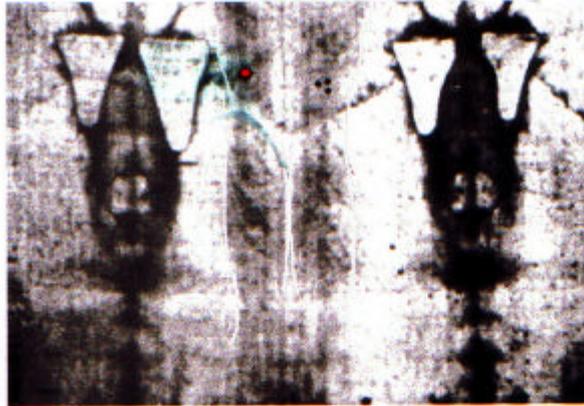
SHOULDERS SCABS CAUSED BY THE TRANSVERSAL GIRDER OF THE CROSS (GALLOW)



ANATOMY, ON CORPSE, SHOWING THE MAIN POINTS TOUCHED BY THE WOOD

Handwritten signature

WOUNDS ON THE KNEES



WOUND ON THE RIGHT KNEE ON THE SHROUD WHICH CORRESPONDS TO JESUS' LEFT KNEE

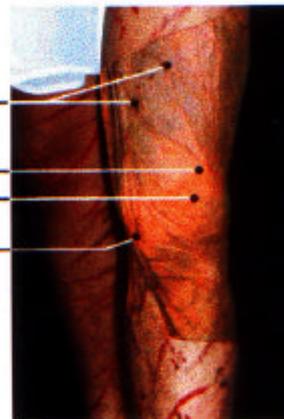


Skin excoriation

Whipping signs
(Flander or whip)

WHIPPING SIGNS
WOUND ON THE LEFT KNEE

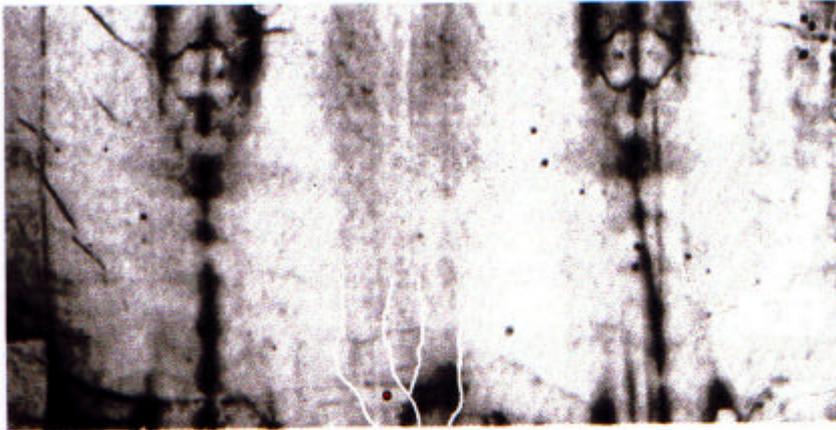
Safen vessels
Aponeurosis
Patela
Safen nerv



ANATOMY OF THE KNEES

T.P. Rosende

WOUNDS ON THE FEET



ANTERIOR REGION OF THE FEET ON THE SHROUD
LEFT FOOT OVER THE RIGHT ONE ON THE JESUS
RIGHT FOOT OVER THE LEFT FOOT ON THE SHROUD



LESION ON JESUS' LEFT FOOT

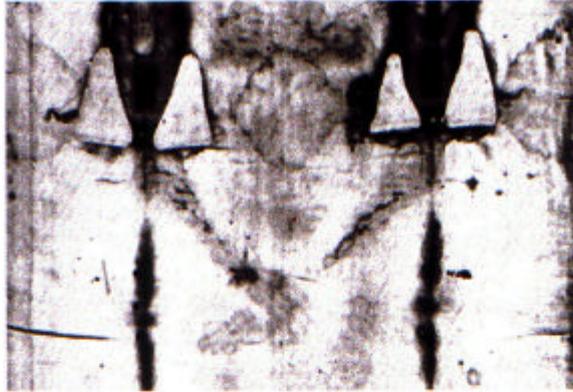
- Orifice caused by the nail
- Tendons of the long extensor muscle of the toes
- Tendon of the long extensor muscle of the halux
- Dorsal venous arc



ANATOMY OF THE FOOT
THE NAIL PLACED BETWEEN THE
SECOND AND THIRD METATARSALS

R. J. ...

WOUNDS ON THE HANDS



LESION SEEN ON THE SHROUD



PIERCING OF THE NAIL - CARPUS AREA
SEMI PARALYSIS OF THE HANDS
LESION OF THE MEDIAN NERV

Tendons of the superficial
flexor muscle of the fingers

Retinaculum of the flexors

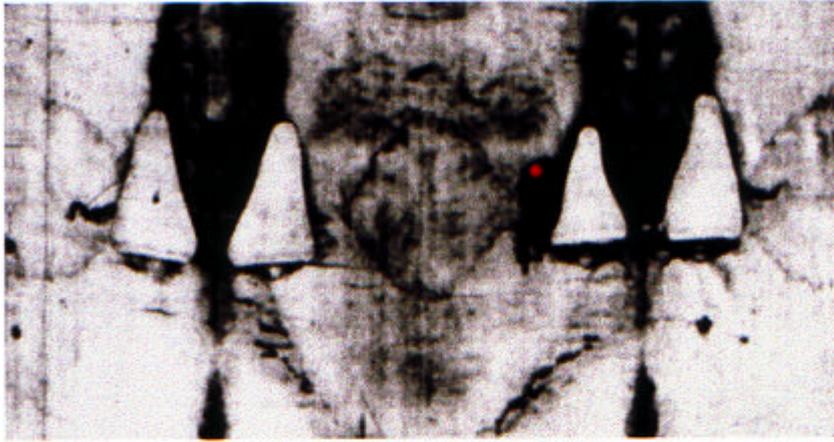
Piercing of the nail



METACARPUS REGION

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WOUND ON THE THORAX



WOUND ON THE THROUD



LESION CAUSED BY THE LANCE
FERIDA NO 5º ESPAÇO
INTERCOSTAL DIREITO



6th rib Right atrium Aorta artery Heart (Cardiac muscle) Pulmonar trunk

Resende