

NAME:

James A. Barrett; Researcher, Sindonologist, Author, Inventor, Natural Scientist and Lecturer - USA

Questions:

1. **When** and **how** did you first hear about the Shroud?

I first heard of the Shroud during the 1988 carbon 14 news reports, but began real inquiry after an extended epiphany “event” March of 2000. The “event” occurred while cleaning out my recently deceased son’s apartment. It began after picking up and looking at the book *The Mystery of the Shroud of Turin: New Scientific Evidence* by John C. Iannone, while sitting in the very spot my son had suddenly and unexpectedly passed away. From that moment to the present it has become a full time passion.

2. What interested you about the Shroud?

It physically demonstrates a Reality beyond our current paradigm of understanding. It expands our perceptions of potential and the possibility, in doing so, I see it evolving science itself. Secondly, I see it as a witness to an event at the pinnacle of Human Potentiality, Ascension! Thirdly, I love the history of this archeological object. It thoroughly amazes me that this fragile object has made it through wars, fires, floods, earthquakes, as well as extensive travel during ancient times and then there are the politics and intrigue of being associated with powerful individuals and organizations. The sum makes it a uniquely fascinating object of interest.

3. Do you believe the Shroud is likely the burial cloth of Jesus Christ, a fake relic, or are you uncertain what to believe?

In the beginning I had no opinion, but after these many years of extensive study, my opinion is that the Shroud has a 98% chance of being the genuine article, without the DNA of an actual historic Jesus, 100% proof will always remain scientifically impossible. In a court of law, an unbiased jury would find the collective evidence, when kept in context, both objective and circumstantial, more than sufficient to come to the same conclusion. Yet, for me the real value is not in the “whom” but in the “how”, for clearly it was the witness to a process! This process forms the image left and the anomalous characteristics that make it so interesting. Whether that process was intentional or a by-product of a primary process, or some combination of the two, this is the subject of the debate.

4. What, if any, actions did you take after you first encountered the Shroud (e.g., conduct research, contact people involved with it, etc.)?

After my “event”, I began extensive study of all aspects of the Shroud science, distilling out the dross of personal agendas, laying out the complete list of anomalous phenomenon known to date. I built a far-reaching library, which extended far beyond Jewish history and Shroud data. I reviewed beliefs and practices of the various mystical cults of the geographic region, as well as archeological documents of the period. I reviewed the state of the art in physics, then I revisited the teachings and story of Jesus. The more I read the more I was motivated to continue my exploration for a biological rational answer for the process of Ascension and by extension the Incorruptibility/lack of physical decay, of known saints’ bodies after death.

5. Have you ever seen the Shroud at any of the exhibitions? If yes, which years?
Sadly, I've never had the opportunity to see it in person.

6. What did you experience when you were in the presence of the Shroud?
N/A

7. Have you ever been involved in any scientific study of the Shroud? If yes, please describe **what motivated** your work and **why**.

I have been deeply involved in researching, correlating and collaborating evidence in a vast array of topics, in my pursuit of a biological (psycho-physical) rationale for the Ascension Event. Mystical sects term this the "Final or Great Completion." Completion of a psychophysical process; one which is discussed and documented in several mystical sects; the Buddhist Rainbow Body attainment is the most specific from my perspective. I found it linear with a scientific bent to its approach.

My passion is to help reveal the biological process and underlying physics of this level of physical phase transition, the psychophysical biological mechanisms that allow the anomalous to occur, for they clearly they do occur.

Personally, the Shroud of Turin sits at the pinnacle of the anomalous artifacts. By correlating the known science collected on the image, the message and teachings of Jesus, with other great avatars and saintly figures as well as their respective ancient sciences of "light body attainment", a picture, model and theory evolves like the negative in Second Pia's developers' solution.

"Ascension" - "Body of Light" attainment (Transfiguration) along with the topic of saintly Incorruptibility, sit at the pinnacle of human potential. It is my personal belief that the Shroud is a witness to one of these events and as such hold significant interest for me personally.

8. Have you ever written anything about the Shroud, either factual or fictitious? If yes, please describe **what motivated** your work and **why**.

Staying true to my epiphany "event" and my son memory, I followed the *Table of Contents* received during that "event", completing *The Silent Gospel, Science of Divinity, Creation of the Shroud of Turin*. Then I wrote a screenplay, a docudrama called *The Silent Gospel- History of the Shroud*, which was a connect-the-dots exercise bringing relevance of the Shroud to our current geo-political landscape.

Now I am completing a second book that fleshes out in more detail the "event process of Ascension biologically."

Why? Because I have a heart felt yearning to share the nuggets I found while exercising my passion.

9. Do you favor or believe any of the current theories on how the image got onto the cloth? If so please name the theory.

Yes, humbly I say that I favor mine personal evolving still filled with holes, I've never given it a name to theory.

1) A logical hypothesis for image formation must accept the laws of physics and chemistry and explain all of the observations.

2) Or the laws of physics and chemistry must evolve to fit the evidence.

The understanding of natural laws is continuously occurring in science. The Shroud image is pushing us into the next paradigms of physics.

Currently proposed image-creation methods using our current understandings and models of physics, have not been able to explain with any satisfaction.

My view is that a “complete theory” for the image creation *must* look at the process of biological Ascension to get a complete model for the physics. This can be done with the same rigors as other scientific investigation.

This goal has been my central focus since 1995 and the central topic of my book published in early 2006. To this day I am still working to correlating the collaborating evidence for just such a reality.

A “complete theory” for the Shroud image creation requires one to look at the ancient mystical sciences along with their related practices correlated with the teachings of the man Jesus. Then attempt to see how these ancient sciences for “Realization” translate into psychophysical processes that end with the specific radiation, in correct distance and strength required to produce just such an image on a cloth.

If this object is a witness to just such an event, then only the process of the event can tell us how the image was created.

10. Do you feel that you have a calling or vocation to be involved somehow with the Shroud? If yes, please describe **what motivated** you to make a commitment to the Shroud and **why**.

"The heart has its reasons which reason knows nothing of." - Blaise Pascal

Passion, like courage and compassion, are heart based emotional qualities.

You either have them in the moment or you do not. The same is true of faith.

If you can explain “it”, “it” is most likely not “it”. My heart calls me to follow this path of inquiry, if I am to be authentic in any way, I must follow my heart.

After many years, I’ve come to believe that these four quotes are literally accurate:

(1) “Love the Lord **your** God with all **your** heart and with all **your** soul and with all **your** mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: love **your** neighbor as **yourself**. All the laws and prophets hang on these two commandments.” Matthew 22:37-39

(2) “Where **your** treasure is, there will **your heart** be also”. - Luke 12:34

(3) “*Blessed are the pure in Heart for they shall see God.*” - St Mathew 5:8

(4) And he said, "Whoever discovers the interpretation of these sayings will not taste death." #1 Gospel of Thomas

The Shroud’s existence validates the teachings and message of Jesus. Coming to these understandings the way I did, I have a heart felt desire; a “dedication to the power and beauty of the compassionate heart” and the *silent gospel* encoding this ancient burial shroud. For me personally, the Shroud reflects this reality in brutally graphic detail.

Please describe below any other *personal* reflections, experiences, insights, or thoughts about the Shroud of Turin that you would like to share.

My sense is that if intentionally created, it was intentionally created for these specific times of technical sophistication. I believe this because it was only after the invention of the camera did true scientific explorations begin; and it was not until the 1970's that much of the anomalous material began to be revealed to the science community; and not until the late 1990's to the present are the full scope of its uniqueness coming to full light and for public consumption.

If intentionally left for these times; what was the message encoded in that thinnest of layers by its creator? What was the intent for creation of the Silent Gospel?

Writings/Websites/Blogs:

Book: *The Silent Gospel, Science of Divinity - Creation of the Shroud of Turin* (2006)

Screenplay: *The Silent Gospel –History of the Shroud* (2009)

Web Sites

www.jamesabarrett.com

www.silentgospel.com