

# Shroud, dating to be redone?

## An international conference in Catania

New data cast further shadows on the 1988 radiocarbon analysis according to which the sacred linen would be from the Middle Ages. On May 23rd at Catania, an international conference of scientists and sindonologists. Benedetto Torrissi: incorrect sampling techniques. Our studies prove it.

### **Federico Piana - Vatican City**

The dating with the radiocarbon method of the Shroud is not reliable. Everything must be redone. The analyzes that led researchers as far back as 1988 to analyze three tissue samples and establish with extreme certainty that the cloth was packaged over a period of time between 1260 and 1390 AD they must be totally challenged. Numerous internationally renowned experts and sindonologists are convinced of this on the basis of 'raw' scientific data, which will be presented for the first time in the world in a technical conference entitled: "The dating of the Holy Shroud: everything to be redone", scheduled for University of Catania next May 23rd.

### **Raw data revolutionizes the scenario**

Among the participants there will also be Benedetto Torrissi, an associate of statistics at the University of Catania. For him those data are irrefutable: "It is a statement that rests on the strength of the tests. Thanks to the multidisciplinary meeting between sindonologists, statisticians and analysts we obtained the raw data of the surveys made at the time in the institutes of Oxford, Arizona and Zurich. This data revolutionizes the scenario. First, because greater statistical results emerged from them than in 1988. Then, analyzing them well, we were able to reach new conclusions to offer to the world scientific community ". To understand the enormous scope of the novelty, it is sufficient to recall that at the end of the 1988 analysis the scientific journal "Nature" published only four sampled results: "In reality - says Professor Torrissi - we have found more than sixteen sampling values". This means casting shadows of doubt on the validity of the theories published then in "Nature".

### **Incorrect sampling method**

The problem of the heterogeneity of radiocarbon analysis data could be a further confirmation of the need to put everything into question. "The lack of agreement is present not only in the results of the three individual research institutes, but is also found within the results of the same center," explains Professor Torrissi, who judged it to be wrong, from the point of view of statistical validity and therefore of the entire operation, also the general sampling techniques of the Shroud tissue.

### **Overcoming radiocarbon analysis?**

The scientific community that will give life to the conference of 23 May next to Catania will try to argue the reasons, evidence in hand, to request another analysis to date the Shroud. But if the C14 radiocarbon analysis is to be overcome, Professor Torrissi does not say so. Leave all the options open: "Do we need to stay radiocarbon or look at other more effective techniques? To this, perhaps, the conference will respond. I am only certain of one thing: the analysis on the Shroud must be redone". Perhaps to discover that it is not of medieval construction, but of the age of Jesus.