

The original painting from which this print is taken is by Jo Witney. It portrays the reconstruction of the face of the Man on the Turin Shroud by sculptor, Professor Juan Manuel Marrino Lopez of the Faculty of Fine Arts, Seville, Spain. The painting is in the Collection of Reggie Norton, former treasurer of our Newsletter and is reproduced with permission. The Sonnet is inspired by an Italian Prayer.

### **The Holy Face, A Sonnet**

Jesus, imprint, your Holy Face on me  
So that the Father loves me as his own;  
And those who look upon me clearly see  
That one who walks with God is not alone.  
Implant your Holy Face in me, Dear Lord,  
So that in me, light shines and goodness glows  
And all creatures will know they are adored  
As from your image endless caring flows.  
Impart your face's love: it is the best,  
To children, the disabled or autistic  
The poor or vulnerable, sad or depressed,  
With cancer, a bad heart or simply sick;  
That all may feel the Hope and Healing Grace  
Of Resurrection in your Holy Face.

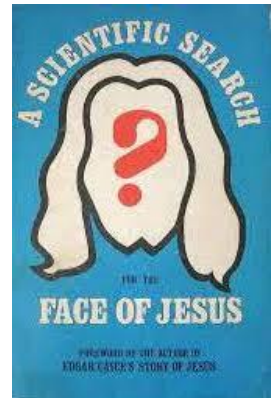
**ARW**

## Elvis Presley and the Face of Jesus

At the time of his death, on August 16th, 1977, Elvis Aaron Presley was reading. Far from the hell-raising reputation he had in some quarters, he was a quiet, gentle, man, who always told the Truth, acknowledged black sources for his music, and was quietly spoken and shy. At least at first, as a role model for teenagers, his behaviour was exemplary. He later over-ate and took *prescription* drugs. All this was the result of the pressure to make money, as the recent fine biopic shows. His essentially Christian upbringing is shown by the name of his estate, Graceland, a gift of God; and in the many gospel songs he recorded.

The book Elvis was reading when he died was one on the Holy Shroud. It was entitled, *A Scientific Search for the Face of Jesus*, a short paperback of 81 pages by Frank O. Adams, a former Colonel in the U.S. Army, and published in 1972, five years before Elvis died while reading it. It is now virtually unobtainable. As for the discredited place where he read it, Lord Chesterfield, the 18th century aristocrat, saw the “necessary-house” as a proper place for self-education\*. My prayerful conclusion is that it is to his credit that Elvis used it as a study, and that as a result of reading Frank O. Adams’s book, he saw the face of Jesus as on the Shroud and far from suffering an ignominious death, was transported to Glory.

ARW



\* Lord Chesterfield’s *Letters to his Son*, Everyman Classics Edition, page 38

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