

## **Sloths, Bats and The Resurrection**

**By Philippa Foster**

Since Cardinal Pellegrino authorised the earliest scientific visual observations of the Shroud in 1969, (and the first samples of linen fibres, surface pollens and dusts were studied in 1973 by Professor Raes and Dr Frei, followed by the extensive scientific scrutiny and testing by STURP scientists in 1978) [1], so much has been discovered. This includes evidence that places the Shroud in Jerusalem at the correct time, a correlation with Crucifixion wounds and 1st Century funerary customs, and recent research identifying mechanisms that could have skewed the C14 results. Yet there is still a lack of definitive answers as to how the linen fibres were discoloured to create a photograph of a crucified man without damaging the cloth. Many experiments have sought to identify the kind of radiation capable of affecting linen fibres in the way noted on the Shroud; but whilst neutron radiation, UV and infrared radiation, corona discharges and/or plasmas (to name just a few) all hint at answers, none has fulfilled the criteria sufficiently to explain every effect [2]. Ray Rogers' work studying cellulose polymers has been fascinating but the hope of finding an exact match to explain the mechanism for image formation remains elusive [3]. It highlights the need to expand our understanding of natural forces beyond conventional radiation sources. Ray's experiments looked into the oxidation effects of plasmas, and he also took into account the presence of naturally occurring terrestrial radiation, radon and secondary cosmic rays, to exclude naturally occurring causes. And he looked to find differences between the image-affected fibres and the unaffected areas of the Shroud, but found none. But maybe when dealing with the presence of God, the radiant energy might not be any different from the natural background radiation. So to have any chance of replicating the image by artificial means, we need a broader perspective to incorporate a solution that doesn't require 'force' or 'heat' to release the energies bound-up in matter. The subtleties demonstrated by the Shroud indicate that an event which was gentle, almost 'passive', rather than 'explosive' happened, but that will require a paradigm shift in our understanding of how atomic nuclei behave. Most definitions relating to nuclear physics are described by words such as smashing, splitting, explosion or power, and the word 'atom' is itself derived from the word 'atomos', meaning 'that cannot be divided' [4], so it takes a leap of thinking to allow concepts less dependent on 'force' to emerge. Equally, there is an expectation that any release of energy would leave a thermal signature, but none has been found.

In large-scale singularities, energy dynamics that appear to be destructively chaotic, are in fact just performing a natural life-cycle, in the same way that a whirlpool has no conscious motivation. Its existence is due to natural motion rather than intent. Black holes at the centre of galaxies are hugely powerful and capable of immense effects at great distances, but essentially their existence is simply serving the purpose of binding other systems together. They are the vortices at the macro and micro scale, which create

the dynamism within solar systems, planets and even life on Earth. Indeed, to some extent this describes mystical notions of God - as a universal force that binds substances together to create structures for life, which are constantly reborn within an ongoing cycle. Its presence has been glimpsed throughout history during 'Light Events' recorded in Scripture, documenting occasions when this universal force visibly interacted with our 3rd Dimensional plane. But the Shroud of Turin is a rare example when a snapshot was captured at the moment it touched our plane of existence, leaving behind a permanent footprint of the underlying universal energy.

If Jesus truly was a spark of God incarnate on Earth, then the forces at play in the Resurrection must be 'natural', albeit very rare. To illustrate a possible analogy for the contradictions posed by the power needed to apply the image - versus the delicacy with which it has been rendered - I have found two of God's more curious creatures, to help show how mechanisms that we take for granted as applying uniformly, can actually be turned on their heads - quite literally. The humble Sloth and Bat can help us to free our preconceptions about how matter and energy may 'coalesce' and 'release'.

### **Anatomy of Gripping Hands - Conscious Strength versus Unconscious Flexion / Contraction.**

We are familiar with images of Sloths snoozing happily, whilst hanging from trees without fear of falling. Their gravity-defying properties are due to their claws being extensions of their leg bones and are actually modified toes within a keratin sheath [5]. They latch onto branches without any conscious effort because they form effective 'hooks'. Sloths can doze safely so long as the branch has a diameter strong enough to support their weight, but not so wide that it reduces the angle needed for their toes to lock-into place. If we were to try to hang from a branch for any length of time, we would quickly tire, because we have to consciously grip the branch with our hands and tense our arm muscles. Once we become exhausted, we drop to the ground because our hands can no longer carry our weight. However, Sloths' claws act as hooks and so are only dependent on the strength of the branch, and not on their own physical stamina.

The anatomy of Bats offers an even more effective mechanism for keeping them aloft from predators while they sleep. Once they find a suitable notch on a cave roof or branch, they simply 'relax' and their talons lock into position. Their body weight actually pulls the claws closed by tightening the tendons connected to the talons, causing them to clench together. Evolution has given them a perfect adaptation to keep them safe while they sleep. To prove how little energy or thought is expended in the process, they don't even fall when they die because no life-process is needed to keep them gripped in this inverted position. Yet these simple adaptations seem totally contrary to how most mammals have to counteract gravitational forces.



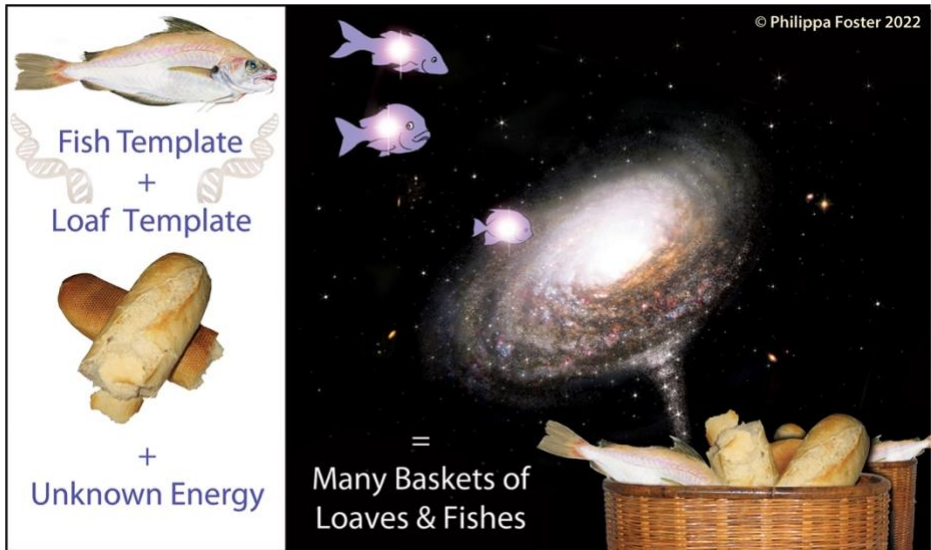
A two-toed sloth

The toes of Sloths and Bats seem far removed from a Divine miracle, but the principle could be used as an analogy to explain how a post-mortem Jesus could achieve the seemingly impossible feat of creating a photograph of Himself whilst converting into pure 'Light' energy. Sloths and Bats each have unique mechanisms for achieving something that seems impossible for other animals to achieve, i.e. hanging upside down against gravity while asleep, and maybe Jesus also had qualities that were similarly contrary to human expectations. Maybe the Resurrection took less 'conscious' effort than our understanding of neutron radiation would lead us to conclude? It's easy to assume that because he looked like a man, that he shared the same experience as the rest of humanity, but maybe his understanding of natural forces was so far beyond ours, that he was no-longer bound by the natural laws that we perceive to be immutable.

### **God in Human Form**

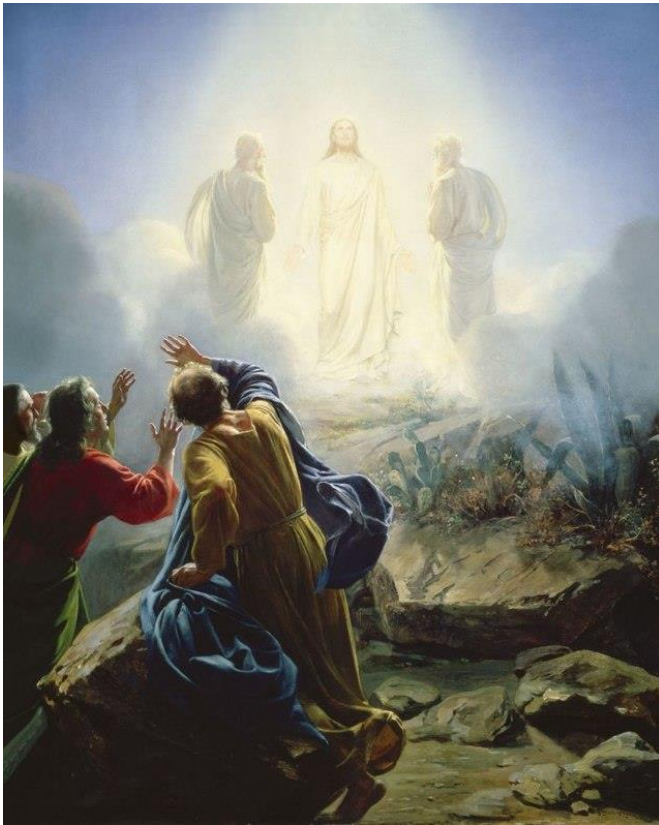
The human mind needs the certainty of knowing that the ground beneath our feet is solid and that our body won't end up on the floor beneath the bed when we awaken in the morning - our atoms having fallen through the atoms of the mattress while we slept. But everything recorded about Jesus indicates that he was no ordinary human. He was born of Mary and lived amongst us for more than 30 years, but his mastery of the

physical forces of materialization and dematerialization - including turning water into wine (John Ch. 2 v. 9), providing loaves and fishes from food scraps (John Ch. 6 v. 11) and walking on water (John Ch. 6 v. 19) [6] - cannot be ignored when trying to understand the image left on the Shroud.



I have previously explored the physics of the Resurrection from the perspective that Jesus consciously released all the energy locked-up in his cells, to create a controlled burst of 'Light', which left a photograph on linen cloth [7]. It sounds monumentally difficult, however it is theoretically possible, based on scientific tests which show that modern-day Healers can increase their Bio-energy output through focussed thought alone, sufficient to move scientific instruments to record tangible results [8]. However, it takes immense discipline and concentration to achieve consistently repeatable effects and raises another fascinating area of study - because although one would think that it would require the energy locked-up within a body's cells to reach the kind of forces required to mark linen in the way that the Resurrection has imprinted itself upon the Shroud - in fact 'healing' energy is not the same as the 'physical' energy that we think of in terms of burning calories at the gym. Healers are taught to draw upon a higher-dimensional energy, which passes 'through' them, because if they don't, they deplete their own energy reserves and become exhausted or ill themselves. This indicates that although the energies used for healing should ideally be drawn from a higher universal source (God), (requiring careful training to avoid negative effects), it is possible to use one's own energies to heal another, like jump-starting a battery, but is unwise to do so. So what is the difference between these two natural sources of energy? And if one is released from our cells and the other is drawn from the universe, how does that apply to the Shroud? The answer is that our bodies heat up when burning calories, but healers

largely remain at a normal body temperature whilst channelling higher-dimensional energies, with only their hands showing mild thermal changes. It is actually the electro-magnetic field of the body that is recorded as changing, rather than any noticeable generation of heat. This could answer the question of why there is no thermal signature to accompany the Energy Event that imprinted Jesus' image onto the Shroud. Healers speak of energies 'vibrating' at higher or lower frequencies, but this is an over simplification and doesn't quite fit with the scientific terminology, however it is the vocabulary currently used to describe the differing sensations between the coarser and finer qualities of the subtle energies at work in healing modalities. Lower energies are said to resonate at the level of the dense material plane and ego - which requires little conscious effort. Higher energies resonate with the compassionate heart - and require conscious discipline to achieve. The highest level is the Universal/Divine source of all things - which is non-denominational because it embraces all of creation.



Transfiguration of Jesus by Carl Bloch

If Jesus really was a spark of God in human form, maybe his human existence was so different from ours, that these two differing energy states would become one and the same. His physical state would mirror his Divine state and would therefore require no effort to move between the physical and non-physical states. This is where the analogy of the effortless grip of Sloths and Bats, becomes relevant to the process of Jesus being able to dissolve his physical body into a state of pure energy. Could it be, that after his death, he just spontaneously reverted to his natural form of pure universal energy? For him, maybe it took more conscious effort to 'hold' his human form together, than it did to revert to something we perceive as light - as witnessed at the Transfiguration (Luke Ch.9 v. 28-31) [9]. It's interesting to note that while he was in the Transfigured state, Moses and Elijah calmly discussed with him 'his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem', presumably foretelling the way he would die and rise again. And during this conversation, 'the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning'. However, there are no reports of burns or sickness amongst the disciples or ill-effects to Jesus, which would have been indicative of radiation effects. It seems as if his Transfiguration into Light was as natural for Him, as his everyday life as a carpenter. And maybe this demonstration gave the disciples a better understanding of events that would transpire within the sealed tomb. If this is the case, his dual God/Man nature would mean that it was inevitable, that when he was killed on the Cross, that he would revert to his Godly form of pure energy. It also indicates that his radiant energy whilst in the presence of his Heavenly Visitors, was 'cool', i.e. there was an absence of thermal heat.

What I am proposing points to his true Divinity and simplifies aspects of the Resurrection. Jesus seems to innately represent the presence of the Universal God, who walked among us in the form of a man, but whose true form was expressed as a Singularity when it exited the bonds of his human form. His Resurrection set him free from the multiple layers of physical matter i.e. flesh, funerary wrappings and a rock-hewn tomb, so that he could reappear to the disciples, albeit in a slightly less recognisable form. It is a theory that is in line with the proposal that a singularity occurred within the tomb that first Easter, and left a photographic image on the Shroud. It points to a natural event where the Event Horizon of his departing essence, gently marked the cloth without damaging it. I find this concurs with the wording on one of the information panels at Pam Moon's Turin Shroud Exhibition [10], which states that under a microscope, the fibres aren't burnt but appear 'corroded'. I find the word 'corroded' to be extremely insightful, because it perfectly describes the effects that a fibre made from plant material may undergo, when it is adjacent to the Event Horizon around a Mini-Black Hole. 'Corrosion' speaks to a 'reaction' taking place between living matter and a high-energy discharge of a creative force - not destroying it, but unmistakably changing it.

Indeed, aren't we all changed when we are in close proximity to the Turin Shroud?

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