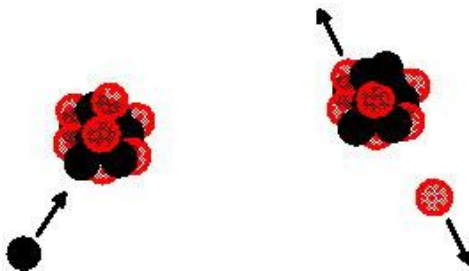


## A Call for Testing

In the keynote address given at the international conference held in conjunction with the Shroud's latest exhibition in 2010, attorney Mark Antonacci advocated that a unique series of scientific tests and experiments should be performed on samples removed from the Shroud of Turin. He originally called for these tests to be conducted in his book, *The Resurrection of the Shroud* (New York: M. Evans and Co., Inc., 2000).<sup>1</sup> In his 2000 book he also published the first image forming hypothesis, the Historically Consistent Method — the only method that can account for all the numerous, unfakable body image features and blood marks that were discovered only by the application of modern technology to this famous cloth.

The Historically Consistent Method was devised after decades of scientific experiments ruled out the possibility that any artistic or naturalistic methods could duplicate either the unique body images or blood marks on the Shroud. This method was also announced only after decades of scientific experiments and analysis also strongly indicated that low temperature radiation — necessarily emanating from the length, width and even depth of the tortured, crucified, dead man wrapped within the burial cloth — could cause the Shroud's unique body image features. The Historically Consistent Method states the dead body gave off particle radiation while it suddenly disappeared encoding all of the man's unprecedented body image features while embedding all of his unbroken blood marks into this burial cloth, long reputed to belong to the historical Jesus Christ. This particular event would not result in an explosion and would explain the Shroud's aberrant radiocarbon dating along with all of its unique off-image features.<sup>2</sup> While it would be literally impossible for this event to occur naturally or by any human endeavor, this event would be consistent in every way with the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Since 1978, thousands of scientific tests and experiments have been performed on the Shroud of Turin and its samples. In fact, only one scientific test result among thousands, its medieval radiocarbon dating, is inconsistent with the Shroud's authenticity as Jesus' burial garment. Antonacci's book and keynote address explain the well-known scientific fact that neutrons within particle radiation necessarily create new C-14 isotopes within linen, blood and other materials containing nitrogen in the following manner.



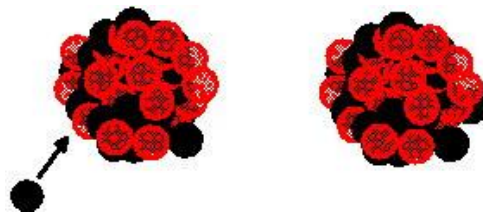
Before collision of neutron (black) with nitrogen-14 nucleus, 7 protons (red) and 7 neutrons. After collision, neutron is captured and proton is ejected, resulting in carbon-14 with 6 protons and 8 neutrons.

Scientific tests and experiments sponsored by The Resurrection of the Shroud Foundation, that were first presented and published at the international conference in 2010,<sup>3</sup> demonstrate that these new C-14 isotopes are created within the molecular structures of linen, blood and other materials. Further, these isotopes survive any pretreatment cleanings administered prior to radiocarbon dating, or any effects of heat or aging that occurred to the Shroud. These and the newly-created isotopes below would remain within the Shroud's linen and blood to this day.

Particle radiation also necessarily creates two new isotopes within linen, blood, and other material that virtually do not exist in nature. These isotopes are also created within the molecular structures of linen and blood or any material containing chlorine or calcium in the following manner.



Before collision of neutron (black) with chlorine-35 nucleus, 17 protons (red) and 18 neutrons. After collision, neutron is captured, resulting in chlorine-36 with 17 protons and 19 neutrons.



Before collision of neutron (black) with calcium-40 nucleus, 20 protons (red) and 20 neutrons. After collision, neutron is captured, resulting in calcium-41 with 20 protons and 21 neutrons.

These new isotopes can only be created by particle radiation. Their presence well-above their infinitesimally natural levels would not only demonstrate that the Shroud's linen and blood were irradiated with particle radiation, but would necessarily invalidate the Shroud's radiocarbon dating. Because particle radiation necessarily creates new C-14 isotopes that remain within the irradiated linen, any C-14 counts or ages attributed to this material is necessarily erroneous. Because all of these isotopes are also created at known predictable rates, scientists can not only demonstrate the Shroud was irradiated by particle radiation, but when this event occurred. Antonacci repeats his 2000 and 2010 calls for Cl-36 and Ca-41 testing of the Shroud's linen and its blood. In the accompanying paper, "Nuclear Science and the Shroud" he calls for these and further tests to be conducted on the Shroud's linen, blood and charred material and on limestone from Jesus' reputed burial tombs.

Because this radiation could only have come from the tortured, crucified, dead body wrapped within this burial garment, the new scientific tests, combined with four decades of modern tests, would prove that a miraculous event happened to this body. This event would not only be consistent with the resurrection of Jesus Christ, but would leave unfakable evidence of its occurrence throughout the entire cloth. By encoding unprecedented and unfakable frontal and dorsal body images that developed over time, this event simultaneously left sophisticated scientific and medical evidence for every element of the passion, crucifixion, death, burial and resurrection of the historical Jesus Christ throughout the full-length images, blood marks and off-image areas on the Shroud. The refutation of the Shroud's aberrant radiocarbon dating — with the simultaneous proof that particle radiation emanated from the length, width and even depth of Jesus' dead, tortured and crucified body — would cause people everywhere to study and examine all of this unfakable evidence.

The realization that hundreds of irrefutable items of scientific and medical evidence exist to confirm the occurrence of the most critical events in all of history, could have unprecedented consequences throughout the world. These events were first mentioned in the most reliable and textually attested sources of antiquity, the Gospels and New Testament. No other religion, agnosticism or atheism has any objective evidence to confirm the central tenets or critical events of their philosophy or religion, let alone an exhaustive amount of such evidence. Overwhelming, objective evidence — along the lines of a 150 – 0 shutout when compared to any contrary or other view — would cause people everywhere to reconsider the basic premises of agnosticism, atheism or those of any other religion.

Unfortunately, religion causes, contributes to or is an underlying element in numerous wars and conflicts that are occurring throughout the world. While such wars and conflicts have always occurred throughout history, their numbers are increasing. Furthermore, the means of destruction by the combatants have become alarming. These underlying religious differences and conflicts go back centuries. Wars and conflicts have not and cannot eliminate these differences. Worse yet, they have perpetuated and deepened the differences and hostilities among the combating religions. Overwhelming, objective, and independent evidence for one religion, with the lack of any such evidence for other religions, would also allow sectarian combatants throughout the world to end these unnecessary wars and conflicts.

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## End Notes

1. M. Antonacci, *The Resurrection of the Shroud*, pp. 185-191.
2. *The Resurrection of the Shroud*, pp. 156-164, 211-236, 309-310.
3. A. C. Lind, M. Antonacci, D. Elmore, G. Fanti, J. Guthrie (2010). Production of radiocarbon by neutron irradiation on linen, International Workshop on the Scientific Approach to the Archeiropoietos Images, Frascati, Italy, May 4-6.