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24 January 2003

Prof. Giulio Fanti
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Dear Giulio:

We have discussed some different hypotheses of image formation since May 2000. You recently asked me to repeat comments I made to you in October 2002 concerning my conclusions about the Shroud of Turin. I had not previously put those thoughts into writing; however, I am willing to make a statement for you.

After 25 years of study, I have some personal opinions about the Shroud. I believe that the technology of the cloth indicates a much greater age than shown by the 1988 date. I believe that we can prove categorically, without any assumptions, that the sample taken in 1988 was invalid. I believe that the image could not be a hoax. Based on its chemical composition, I believe that the Shroud is a real shroud. I believe that those opinions are all that can be justified on the basis of the facts and observations we now have. However, no observations to date rule out the possibility that the Shroud may very well be the actual shroud used with Jesus.

My conclusion is that the Shroud may be the most important object in history. It deserves only the most careful, meticulous study and careful preservation.

I wish you all of the success in the world at carrying the studies into the future.

Warmest regards,



Raymond N. Rogers
Fellow
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