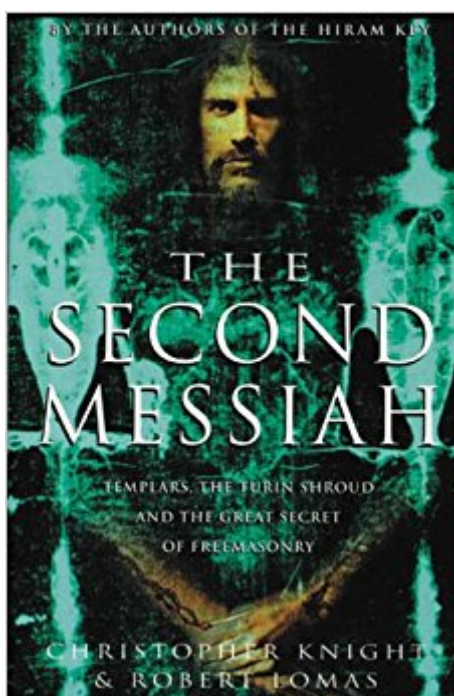


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# Second Messiah: Templars, The Turin Shroud And The Great Secret Of Freemasonry



## Synopsis

For almost seven and a half centuries, a piece of cloth was venerated because it bore the image of the crucified Christ. However, but results of carbon dating have shown that the fabric could not have predated 1260. Now new evidence conclusively proves that it is not a face...yet neither is it the image of Jesus Christ. In the follow-up to their groundbreaking first book, *The Hiram Key*, Christopher Knight and Robert Lomas continue their research into the mysteries of Freemasonry and the true historical Jesus, and uncover the precise time and place of the shroud's creation. The answer to the great mystery of the Shroud of Turin will surprise and astonish as the authors unlock the secrets of abandoned Freemason rituals and the man who would be called the Second Messiah.

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## Customer Reviews

One hundred years ago, an amateur was allowed to photograph the Shroud of Turin. The negatives he produced of that famous image captivated the Christian world and strengthened their belief that it carried the imprint of Christ's face and body. In *The Second Messiah*, authors Knight and Lomas, who are Freemasons, build a meticulous case against this theory. Although they use recent scientific data that proves the linen shroud could not have predated medieval times, they go well beyond proving it is not the burial shroud of Jesus. *The Second Messiah* not only pinpoints the exact moment in history during which the Shroud of Turin took the imprint, it actually names the man whose image the Shroud holds. Like any good mystery story, this one begins in medias res. The

opening chapters recount centuries of suppression of certain "truths" of Freemasonry by the English Grand Lodge, which led the authors to believe that secrets were being kept from other Freemasons in the service of a Christian agenda. To the uninitiated, this might seem like petty in-fighting within the membership of a clandestine club. Read on. The authors soon paint a larger history of the Knights Templar, the Crusaders who were the originators of modern Freemasonry, and their oppression and eventual eradication by the Roman Catholic Church. The torture and martyrdom of Jacques de Molay, the last Grand Master of the Knights Templar, are at the center of this remarkable book's search for historical authenticity. In their introduction, the authors propose that "History seems not so much a record of past events, more a catalogue of preferred beliefs expounded by people who have a vested interest." One of their purposes in writing this book is to show how Freemasonry's rituals and secrets were twisted and used by the Catholic Church to persecute the Knights Templar and their followers. The chapter entitled "The Tarot and the Templars" fascinates with its explanation of how the allegorical cards were used by the Knights to instruct members in the secrets of Freemasonry, and how the Church misinterpreted the meanings of the Tarot and outlawed it. At the conclusion of their well-documented search for the origins of the Shroud of Turin and the Great Secret of Freemasonry, Knight and Lomas say they reached a "new vantage point," from which they see "people huddled together with their eyes squeezed shut \_ all facing inwards and repeating the same words, "This is the only highground, there can be no other."" After publication of this painstakingly researched and utterly convincing book, it will be hard for readers, Freemasons or otherwise, to keep their eyes and their minds closed. -- From Independent Publisher --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Christopher Knight has a degree in advertising and graphic design and is the managing director of a marketing and advertising agency. In 1976 he became a Freemason. Robert Lomas is the co-author of *The Hiram Key*, *The Second Messiah*, and *Uriel's Machine*. A Freemason, he lectures at Bradford University in England.

I read this book first when I was 16 years old. That was 9 years ago. The hypothesis the authors present that the image on the Shroud of Turin is Jacques de Molay seems ridiculous, and they do not give a very good argument for it. I do not believe it is either him or Jesus. The authors themselves say there's no evidence for it existing prior to 1357 when the Savoy family released it to the public, which works against their theory since Jacques de Molay's crucifixion took place in 1314. However, though I disagree with the main hypothesis of the book, they raised some interesting

points. They view the tarot cards as having been symbols of secret knowledge that the Knights Templar possessed. As an example they use card II the High Priestess card which has a High Priestess sitting in between two pillars labelled "B" and "J". Their hypothesis is that this card represents St. Mary Magdalene, who they claim was the first pope of the Catholic Church, contrary to the Vatican's claim that St. Peter was such. They state that the Knights Templar held this secret because they subscribed to St. Mary Magdalene's line of apostolic succession instead of St. Peter's, and they also believe that the "B" and "J" pillars next to her are the same pillars, Boaz and Jachin, that are in Masonic Temples and were in King Solomon's Temple as mentioned in the Second Book of Parlipomenon Chapter 3 Verse 17. I disagree with their theory that St. Mary Magdalene was the first pope or that the Templars even believed that, but I think they are correct that the B and J pillars are the same Boaz and Jachin mentioned in the Second Book of Parlipomenon as being pillars of Solomon's Temple and contained in Masonic Temples, so I think the tarot may have a Masonic, Judaic or Biblical connection, but I view the woman as being more likely a Jewish High Priestess than a Christian, so not St. Mary Magdalene. Knight's and Lomas's account of King Phillip IV of France's intrigues against the Knights Templar and the Roman Catholic was also interesting and mainly accurate. It was also better than Dan Brown's account in The Da Vinci Code because it accurately showed that the papacy had nothing to do with the destruction of the Knights Templar and was just as much a victim of King Phillip's machinations as the Templars were unlike Brown's which inaccurately portrayed it as a papal persecution of heretics.

As a Templar follower, I found this book quite a revelation as to how the Shroud of Turin may have originated. It shows the weakness of the Church of the times and the greed of the French king. It gives good evidence as to how the shroud may have become what it is seen today and gives a very plausible insight as to the last days of the Templar Grandmaster. A very readable and possible part of history as to how the shroud originated which stems from that Black Friday 13th all those centuries ago.

I was skeptical at first that this was going to be just another "DaVinci Code" fiction. I was wrong. The authors have provided a body of research that cannot be easily ignored or dismissed, except by those who have beliefs that are unmoveable and uninfluenced by sound research and scientific evidence. For those people to whom knowledge is an enemy there can be no evidence. Why the Templars? Why their destruction by the RC Church? What is the original genesis and purpose of the Freemasons? What is a plausible and scientific explanation for the Shroud of Turin? The info is

compelling and largely supported by evidence. While some unknowns / gaps are filled in with speculation, the logic and plausability is reasonable, and does not diminish the scholarly findings. An exciting and educational book.

As soon as I finished the "Hiram Key", I had to pick up "The Second Messiah". This book is GREAT! The authors once again have clearly articulated their message, backing up their theories with cold hard facts. Anyone who is interested in the truth about the Templars, Masons, the Shroud and Jesus should read this book. If you are close minded and not open to reading "real" history instead of the mindless history that is jammed down our throats by the church as we are growing up, don't even bother - you just won't get it! I can't wait until Knight and Lomas get the next one out for the world to read! Read this book, you will not be disappointed!

After my review of "The Hiram Key" was published here I received an email from Christopher Knight inviting me to read his and Robert Lomas's next books "The Second Messiah" and "Uriel's Machine." I just finished "The Second Messiah." I start "Uriel's Machine", tomorrow. "The Second Messiah" presents the reader with massive amounts of evidence to show that the Catholic Church has, for centuries, covered up the true facts concerning the Shroud of Turin, (among other things), how the Shroud came to be and who's image is imprinted on the cloth. Knight and Lomas present a strong case that the Knights Templar, King Philip the Fair of France, and Pope Clement V had as much to do with the creation of the Shroud as did the person who's visage appears upon it. The authors go to great lengths to explain what physical forces created the image on the Shroud of turin. They even attempt to create a "Shroud" themselves. "The Second Messiah" is a ride through history, with stops along along the way to visit Herod's Temple, and learn about the secrets which were hidden for centuries underneath, to Scotland and Rosslyn Chapel and the secret of the West Wall, to London and the formation of the Grand Masonic Lodge and its break with the Scottish Lodges. Here, Knight and Lomas explain in fascinating detail the secrets of the 33 Masonic degrees. "The Second Messiah" is very interesting, extremely well written and painstakingly researched. I suggest that you read this book holding "The Second Messiah" in one hand and the Christian "Bible" in the other. Keep a pad and pencil handy to jot down the questions you want to ask the Pope, the next time you see him!

very educational

Great story, very interesting. Makes more sense than the so called " Christian" explanation. Shared it with my family, like it also

Haven't got around to reading it. Bought it for someone else really!

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