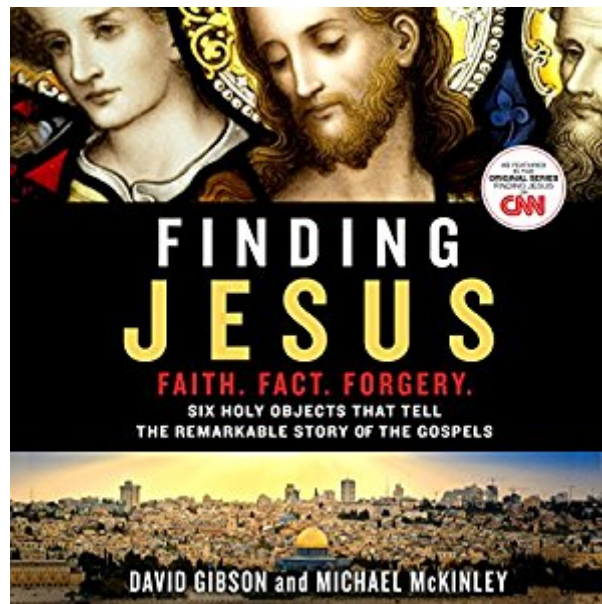


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# Finding Jesus: Six Holy Objects That Tell The Remarkable Story Of The Gospels



## Synopsis

Finding Jesus explores six major artifacts, including the Shroud of Turin, the True Cross, and John the Baptist, that give us the most direct evidence about the life and world of Jesus. The book and attendant CNN series provide a dramatic way to retell "the greatest story ever told" while introducing a broad audience to the history, the latest controversies, and newest forensic science involved in sorting out facts from the fiction of would-be forgers and deceivers. The book and the show draw on experts from all over the world. Beyond the faithful, the book will also appeal to the skeptical and to curious readers of history and archaeology, while it takes viewers of the primetime TV series deeper into the story.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

\*Finding Jesus\* examines several noted artifacts allegedly connected to the historical Jesus of Nazareth, the purported remains of John the Baptist, the James Ossuary, Mary Magdalene and the "Jesus' Wife" gospel fragment, the \*Gospel of Judas,\* the True Cross, and the Shroud of Turin. The book draws upon the interviews of a range of modern conservative and liberal NT scholars and authors, such as Rev. Bruce Chilton, Kate Cooper, Rabbi Joshua Garroway, Fr. James Martin, Elaine Pagels, and Ben Witherington III, as well as quoting from other notable NT scholars such as Bart Ehrman, Frs Raymond Brown and John Meier, Karen King, Amy-Jill Levine, Marvin Meyer, and NT Wright. For a work of popular non-fiction, one that is a companion volume to the CNN documentary series \*Finding Jesus,\* and at a time when most TV documentaries and

books of its kind are weighted towards trying to disprove the orthodox view of Christianity in favor of ridiculous conspiracy theories while giving the Roman Catholic Church a black eye (strangely the Greek Orthodox Church rarely gets any notice, good or bad), I was fairly surprised at how balanced this book is. While trying to be fair and allow all sides to be heard the book by journalists and filmmakers David Gibson and Michael McKinley nevertheless exercises a remarkable degree of restraint for this type of book. I'd give it 3 1/2 stars if I could. For one thing, it presents a historically and theologically accurate portrait of ancient Gnosticism, which is rarely done in such popular works nowadays.

Sunday evening at 7, (Utah time) on CNN we watched the Segment of "Finding Jesus" concerning the Shroud of Turin. (If you missed it, you can watch it here:

[http://www.cnn.com/shows/finding-jesus?sr=finding\\_jesus\\_cnn](http://www.cnn.com/shows/finding-jesus?sr=finding_jesus_cnn) ) and the 6 part series is set to conclude on Easter Sunday. Today I finished the book "Finding Jesus: Faith . Fact. Forgery.: Six Holy Objects that Tell the Remarkable Story of the Gospels", by David Gibson and Michael McKinley (St Martin's Press, 2015). The book covers 6 of the mysteries that have plagued the church for many centuries. They're things that are important to believers: either that they are true, or that they aren't true. Thus the FAITH. Although they are alluded to, or have some basis in scripture, they're things that are very difficult to prove, mainly because there is no chain of custody, no provenance to prove that they really do date from almost 2000 years. And in the case of the gospels of Judas and Mary, which seem to date from a couple of centuries after the time of Christ, where is the supporting evidence that they were based on fact? The authors have done extensive research into the research that has been done concerning the Shroud of Turin, a piece of the True Cross, the Ossuary of James, brother of Jesus, relics (bones) of John the Baptist, and the two extra-biblical gospels, considered to be Gnostic writings. They address tradition from over a millennium ago, and findings from as recent as a couple of years ago. If you enjoy The History Channel , or Discovery, this book ( and the CNN series) will appeal to you.

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