

Did Christ Have Red Hair?

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Opinion

“One of the more fascinating finds in this tomb, one that has not received much attention, was the preservation of a sample of Jewish male hair. The hair was lice-free, and was trimmed or cut evenly, probably indicating that the family buried in this tomb practiced good hygiene and grooming. The length of the hair was medium to short, averaging 3-4 inches. THE COLOR WAS REDDISH [1].”

The question of what The Lord Jesus Christ looked like is actually a question of what the average young man of Galilee looked like 2,000 years ago. Jesus Christ did not stand out from the crowd since his renegade disciple Judas had to point him out with a kiss [2]. So, what did the Galilean young man in his early 30s look like 2,000 years ago? The Jews of 2,000 years ago did not make busts or statues of themselves or their kings and heroes, probably fearing it would tempt them to idolatry [3]. Ostensibly this is why no sculpture of Jesus Christ was ever made during his lifetime. Jews also did not celebrate birthdays! As a result of this the only tolerably verifiable bust of any Jew from that time is the bust The Romans made of Flavius Josephus [4]. If we use Josephus' bust as our guide it is safe to say the average Joe in Palestine 2,000 years ago had mostly Caucasoid features. The Shroud of Turin depicts Christ as dolichocephalic and Caucasoid. According to The Good Book one of Jesus' ancestors was Jacob. Jacob's twin brother Esau had red hair, as probably did two other of Christ's ancestors the Kings David and Solomon [5-9]. If I were a betting man I'd wager Jesus Christ was a white skinned and red haired gentleman. He was not a European or Caucasian but he had a long face, blue or grey eyes, [10] medium to thin lips and a reasonably prominent nose. Most depictions of Christ I have seen show him to have blonde (golden) hair. I guess in the light of the above future artists need to adjust his hair and beard to a fierier tint and hue. So Christ probably had red/reddish blonde/chestnut/ginger/strawberry blonde hair as did Alexander the Great, Queen Boudicca, Queen Elizabeth the First, Pharaoh Ramses. The Second, Winston Churchill, Galileo, Mark Twain, General Custer and Florence Nightingale.

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