



The Strippings of Jesus: Asking the Right Questions

A FREE public lecture by Prof. David Tombs
Hosted by The Centre for Faith in Public Life, Wesley House, Cambridge

Monday 23 January 2023, 4pm-6pm

**Wesley House, Jesus Lane
Cambridge, CB5 8BJ and Online**

Image: Tenth Station of the Cross, 'Jesus is Stripped of His Garments',
Church of Holy Cross, Sisak, Croatia. Photo © Zatlatic Dreamstime.com



**Wesley House
Cambridge**

Register for in-person or virtual attendance here:
<https://strippingsofjesus.eventbrite.co.uk>

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All four gospels record that Jesus was stripped of his clothes at the cross. Mark 15:15-20 and Matthew 27:26-31 attest to an additional series of strippings as part of the mockery in the praetorium.

Asking the right questions about the strippings can help churches to think more deeply about the prevalence of sexual violence both past and present. How are these forced strippings of Jesus to be understood? What was their purpose at the time? How might they help churches address the silences and stigmas around sexual violence in contemporary times?

This public lecture will examine the meaning that stripping a prisoner conveyed in the ancient world. It draws on the recently published *The Crucifixion of Jesus: Torture, Sexual Abuse, and the Scandal of the Cross* (Routledge, 2023, taylorfrancis.com) to show why this part of the crucifixion narrative deserves more attention.



David Tombs is a lay Anglican theologian and the Howard Paterson Chair Professor of Theology and Public Issues at the University of Otago, Aotearoa New Zealand. His work draws on liberation and contextual theologies to address public issues in transformative ways. His writing focusses on liberation, reconciliation, and crucifixion.

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