

## The Mandylion

Icon Not Made by Human Hands

This image is typically the first icon to be written by a student.

King Abgar of Edessa invited Jesus to his kingdom as he was suffering from leprosy and heard about the healing of the sick without medicine or herbs. King Abgar declared that Jesus was either God, or the son of God to perform these miracles.

Jesus was unable to come, but reportedly wrote, "Blessed are you who hast believed in me without having seen me. For it is written concerning me, that they who have seen me will not believe in me, and that they who have not seen me will believe and be saved." Then he sent disciple Thaddeus of Edessa, one of the 70, to deliver a cloth on which Jesus wiped and imprinted His image. Upon receipt of this cloth, King Abgar was healed, and converted to Christianity by Thaddeus of Edessa.