

## Russian Orthodox Wall Cross of the Crucified Christ, circa XIX C.

Bronze and enamels of three different colors including dark blue, azure and white. Measures 11 x 17 cm (4.5" x 6 3/4"). Body of Christ hangs on the cross outside the walls of Jerusalem seen in the background. His monogram IC XC brackets His head. The left panel shows the women who stood faithfully to witness his death with His mother Mary the Theotokos closest to Him as her monogram initials indicate. To the right stand the Apostle John to whom Christ entrusted His mother moments before His death, and the Centurion Cornelius, a Roman soldier who proclaimed: "this is the Son of God", later becoming a Christian bishop and saint.

At the top of the cross is the icon of "Christ Made without Hands" held by angels. This icon was the actual portrait of Christ on a cloth which he had held to His face and sent to the ruler of Edessa to cure him of leprosy. The icon was displayed over the gate of the city for many years and then sent to Constantinople.

At the foot of the cross is a skull in the grave signifying Christ's decent into Hades after His crucifixion where He broke the chains of Death.

The icon is in good condition. There is moderate wear to the high points of the artwork, but the details of the writing, cityscape, clothes, and even some of the facial features are still well defined. The enamel is generally in good shape having just a single larger chip immediately above the cross (not very conspicuous) and several smaller chips and flakes. There are no dents or edge knocks. Overall, an impressive classic icon.

Please note, pen in our photo is for size reference.

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**\$190.00**



