

Pillar of Fire photographed in Houston, Texas

God allowed the Pillar of Fire to be photographed with His prophet in the Sam Houston Coliseum in Houston, Texas, on January 24, 1950.

While Brother Branham was conducting a series of services in Houston, and praying for many sick people, a Baptist minister who disagreed with divine healing being part of scriptural teachings challenged Brother Branham to a debate concerning divine healing. Brother Branham refused to debate, but Brother Fred F. Bosworth, who was traveling with Brother Branham, asked to take the debate. Brother Branham didn't want any fussing, but Brother Bosworth promised that he would not fuss. The debate was conducted, and it clearly showed divine healing is a scriptural doctrine. The Brother Bosworth told the audience that Brother Branham was in the audience and he could come dismiss the congregation if he chose.

Brother Branham came to the platform and first told the audience that he didn't want anyone feeling badly towards Dr. Best because of what he had said and his actions, because Dr. Best has a right to his beliefs. He told them that if the gift was in question, then God speaks for Himself. At that time, the Pillar of Fire came down and hung over Brother Branham's head in the form that you see in this photo. Some of the audience saw it, some did not.

The photographer that Dr. Best had hired to take pictures of the debate was also very skeptical. The six photos he had taken during the debate were ones of Dr. Best putting his fist under Brother Bosworth's face, etc. When the Pillar of Fire came in, the photographer took this photograph. When he developed the negatives, the first six negatives were blank. This photograph was the only one that turned out. The negative was taken to George J. Lacy, a man who examined questioned documents for the FBI. After examination, he came to the conclusion that the light had struck the negative. (see report)

More details concerning this are related by Brother Branham in several sermons including "Testimony," November 29, 1953, West Palm Beach, Florida, and "We Would See Jesus," March 14, 1954, Columbus, Ohio.



January 29, 1950

R E P O R T A N D O P I N I O N

Re: Questioned Negative

On January 28, 1950 at the request of Reverend Gordon Lindsay, who was representing Reverend William Branham of Jeffersonville, Indiana, I received from the Douglas Studios of 1610 Rusk Avenue in this city, a 4x5 inch exposed and developed photographic film. This film was purported to have been made by the Douglas Studios of Reverend William Branham at the Sam Houston Coliseum in this city, during his visit here the latter part of January, 1950.

R E Q U E S T

Reverend Lindsay requested that I make a scientific examination of the aforesaid negative. He requested that I determine, if possible, whether or not in my opinion the negative had been re-touched or "doctored" in any way, subsequent to the developing of the film, that would cause a streak of light to appear in the position of a halo above the head of Reverend Branham.

E X A M I N A T I O N

A macroscopic and microscopic examination and study was made of the entire surface of both sides of the film, which was Eastman Kodak Safety Film. Both sides of the film were examined under filtered ultra-violet light and infra-red photographs were made of the film.

The microscopic examination failed to reveal retouching of the film at any place whatsoever by any of the processes used in commercial retouching. Also, the microscopic examination failed to reveal any disturbance of the emulsion in or around the light streak in question.

The ultra-violet light examination failed to reveal any foreign matter, or the result of any chemical reaction on either side of the negative, which might have caused the light streak, subsequent to the processing of the negative.

The infra-red photograph also failed to disclose anything that would indicate that any retouching had been done to the film.

The examination also failed to reveal anything that would indicate that the negative in question was a composite negative or a double exposed negative.

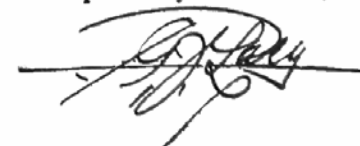
There was nothing found which would indicate that the light streak in question had been made during the process of development. Neither was there anything found which would indicate that it was not developed in a regular and recognized procedure. There was nothing found in the comparative densities of the highlights that was not in harmony.

O P I N I O N

Based upon the above described examination and study I am of the definite opinion that the negative submitted for examination, was not retouched nor was it a composite or double exposed negative.

Further, I am of the definite opinion that the light streak appearing above the head in a halo position was caused by light striking the negative.

Respectfully submitted,



GJL/11