

# William Branham

a prophet  
sent by God

Ewald Frank



On the Mount of Transfiguration, Peter, John and James saw a cloud of light descend and they suddenly saw Jesus transformed before their eyes. In this transfigured and glorified state, John saw the Lord on the Isle of Patmos. Before the opening of the seals, this supernatural cloud of light descended for all to see. Is it the sign of the Son of Man in the sky? Is it the day when the Son of Man revealed Himself before His Second Coming (Luk 17:30)? Although the photo was taken from a great distance, the face can still be clearly recognised. *"While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud..."* (Matth. 17, 5). *"And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight."* (Acts 1, 9)



If photography had existed at the time of Moses, it would have been possible to capture the pillar of cloud and fire, for it was visible. It overwhelms us that the Lord has revealed Himself and descended in the same way in our generation. HE has thus visited His people with His supernatural presence. It really happened, otherwise the camera would not have been able to capture the appearance. The Lord is indeed present, as He promised, when His people gather in His name. On this particular occasion, He wanted His presence to be documented for believers and unbelievers.

## Introduction

On my lecture tours I have been asked again and again to publish something about William M. Branham. I knew him personally for exactly 10 years (1955-1965) and was with him in Europe and the U.S.A. We ate at the same table and rode in the same car. I experienced him as a man and as a man of God. I have been privileged to be an eye and ear witness to the extraordinary ministry given to him by God. Thus, I can speak and write from my own thorough knowledge. I am also in possession of over 300 sermons that he preached and can thus form a comprehensive assessment of his preaching of the Word, his special mission and message.

During his lifetime and also after his death in December 1965, he was held in high esteem by some, but strictly rejected by others. In Christian journals, he was predominantly judged negatively by authors who did not know him and his ministry personally. In contrast, the secular press has generally reported positively on him. It is well known that the assessment of personalities who appear in public varies greatly. It is particularly bad for those who deviate from traditional traditions.

The terms "prophets" and "prophetesses" have always been used for men and women who have come forward with revelations. We already find these terms in the Holy Scriptures. Abraham, Moses, Elijah and many others were prophets confirmed by God. This term is meant to express that it is not a human being, but God Himself who speaks through man. As the mouth of God on earth there have been mouthpieces, therefore in such men sent by God, who really spoke in the name of the LORD, we find Thus saith the LORD. Only after God the Lord had spoken to them, and that happened from mouth to ear, thus audibly, could such men say: Thus hath the Lord spoken! In addition, they saw certain events in visions and were therefore called "seers". In addition to the seeing in the spirit, the inspiration of the spirit came, and thus what was seen and revealed was spoken and written down as a word.

The most famous prophet of the Old Testament is Moses. To him the invisible revealed himself visibly in the form of a man and spoke with him face to face. The most famous seer and prophet of the New Testament is the apostle John. He reports in the last book of the Bible what he saw and heard. He saw the course of human history according to the divine plan of salvation to the end. He even saw the new heaven and the new earth, that is, the new beginning. *"God the Lord does nothing without first revealing His counsel to His servants the prophets"* (Amos 3:7).

It is rightly asked how one can know whether they are true or false prophets, because many claim to be sent by God. There have always been true

and false prophets. The Lord Himself warned us that there would be many false prophets, but He also promised that He would send a prophet like Elijah before the great and terrible day (Mal. 3:23; Matth. 17:11).

However, there is a reliable criterion, a standard that must be used for testing: The infallible Word that remains valid for eternity. The Old and New Testaments contain the plan of salvation fully and finally revealed by God Himself. Whoever appears as a prophet or prophetess must accept that the doctrines and revelations proclaimed and the practice practised are subjected to the overall testimony of Holy Scripture. The slightest deviation, addition, removal or alteration from the original Word disqualifies the person concerned at once on the spot. Whoever speaks from God, or through whom God speaks, can only say what has already been said. Both Old and New Testaments contain all doctrines, knowledge and revelations, and therefore the threat of final punishment in the last chapter of the Bible is laid upon the *adding and taking away from the written Word*. God, however, remains sovereign in His actions. HE says: "*Behold, I accomplish a new thing...*" (Is. 43, 19). He does what He pleases without announcing the details beforehand.

William Branham did not appear with new revelations, his ministry clearly consisted in putting anew on the lampstand what had already been documented in the Word and handed down to us by the prophets and apostles. Through the ministry entrusted to him, God did something new in part and also what had already happened before. Whoever receives such a prophet sent by God will receive the reward of a prophet (Matth. 10, 41).

It is true that with his absolutely biblical preaching he stood in contrast to the traditional traditions found in churches and free churches. But the overwhelming conformity of his teachings and practice to the Scriptures compels every honest person, whether clergy or lay, to examine his own preaching and practice. All sincere seekers of truth have no choice but to face the sole valid testimony of Scripture. It is on this unshakeable foundation, on which the early church was founded, that the judgement must be made.

### **Supernatural confirmation**

Men sent by God were legitimised from heaven on earth at all times. In early Christianity, the continuation of the ministry begun by Christ took place in the redeemed after the resurrection of the Saviour. Since the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on that day of Pentecost, the apostolic proclamation was accompanied and confirmed by the the Lord. The original Church is in every respect the pattern valid for the entire time of grace.

*"So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following." (Mark 16:19-20).*

*"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?" (Heb. 2:3-4)*

Anyone who reads the Acts of the Apostles and the Epistles will notice again and again that God the Lord confirmed His Word in a supernatural way. Miracles and signs happened to the people who believed. The Gospel of the crucified and victoriously risen Lord was both: the joyful and liberating message of salvation and the power of God demonstrated in the believers (Rom. 1,16-17; 1. Cor. 1, 18).

The whole person was redeemed, and so salvation of the soul, deliverance of the spirit and healing of the body were the normal part of the services in early Christianity; even the raising of the dead is reported. Exactly what happened in the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ and then, worked by the Spirit of God in the early Church, was actually repeated to an even greater degree in the ministry of William Branham. There are millions of eyewitnesses to this fact and, as already mentioned, the recorded sermons.

Whoever compares him with the well-known evangelists, who are happy with any method, up to collecting money, and any kind of show, does an injustice to this man of God. If questioned, none of them could testify to a heavenly calling, as the men truly sent by God up to William Branham were able to do.

Rev. Gordon Lindsay wrote the book *"A Man Sent by God"*, which Rev. R. Kägi, Zurich, published in German. Whether friends or opponents, all had to admit that here it was not a man, but God Himself working through man. After this simple man had his calling and mission confirmed on 7 May 1946, he began special campaigns. In the years 1946-1949, the decisive breakthrough of the full Gospel in modern times took place according to the original Christian pattern. The confirmations and healing miracles were so tremendous that people from all denominations and from all countries flocked to the meetings. Men from politics and business, even from Congress in Washington, sought him out to pray for them.

In the first half of the 1950s, his missionary journeys took him through Africa, India and Europe. In Durban, South Africa, the audience in the large stadium was several hundred thousand. In Bombay, India, the crowd was estimated at 400,000. In Germany and Switzerland, depending on the location,

between 10,000 and 20,000 attended the meetings. In the Scandinavian countries, and there especially in Finland, great miracles and signs occurred, even the raising of the boy who had been killed by an accident. King George VI of England asked William Branham to pray for him. This happened at Buckingham Palace during a stopover in London on the way to Finland.

All the evangelists who became known in the U.S. after World War II, and later in other countries, owe their ministry directly or indirectly to the supernatural work of God, which they saw in the life of William Branham. David Du Plessis, who became known throughout the world as "Mr. Pentecost", was so deeply impressed during the meetings in South Africa that he decided to follow William Branham to the United States. I met him personally on the occasion of the International Faith Conference in Dallas, Texas, in June 1958, arranged by Gordon Lindsay, at which William Branham was the keynote speaker. Many men could be enumerated whom I know personally, up to Demos Shakarian, the World President of the Businessmen of the Full Gospel, who, if they were still alive and had the courage, would be available as witnesses to this unique ministry.

In the case of this man of God, what our Lord said is literally true:

*"There is another that beareth witness of me; and I know that the witness which he witnesseth of me is true. ... But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me." (John 5:32,34-37)* Where God Himself speaks and works, the testimony has its own weight.

The works supernaturally wrought by God are the proof of a divine mission in connection with the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They are the actual, irrefutable legitimation that convinces the whole person. Our Lord said: *"Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do..."* (John 14:11-12). God Himself also confirmed this word as true in the ministry of William Branham, thus it needs no further human appraisal. Moses and Elijah, Peter and Paul, indeed all men sent by God were confirmed by Him. The same can be said in this case. Those who have difficulty believing a man are thus given the opportunity to believe God. *"... for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him."* (John 3:2b).

### From the childhood ...

Since his childhood, this man was accompanied by the supernatural presence of God. There really were men, of whom William Branham was one, who were destined from birth to a special task, men who did not at some point self-appoint themselves and call themselves prophets, but were appointed by God Himself by a direct heavenly calling. Even as a child, William Branham saw visions of events that all came true, often years later.

When he was seven years old, he heard a voice from a whirlwind that seemed to have settled in the crown of a tree, although everywhere else it was windless. It was called to him: **"Never drink or smoke, and do not defile your body in any way, for you must do a work for Me when you grow older."** (Kägi, p. 15). As a youth, he was repeatedly urged by friends to drink and smoke. They called him a coward, and that was exactly what he did not want to be, because after all, as a boxer, he was not a coward. Every time he tried, he seemed to hear the same sound and the same voice commanding him not to do it. He was preserved by it. Elijah experienced the storm before the Lord spoke to him at Mount Horeb (1 Kings 19). Job heard the voice of the Lord directly from the storm (ch. 38, 1). *"Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire."* (Heb. 1, 7). This is still true today.

As a young man, he was ordained by Dr. Roy Davis in the Baptist Church. Not long after, he began an interdenominational ministry because he felt to be obliged to all.

In June 1933, several things of greater significance happened. He had his first field crusade. At the end of this series of meetings, on Sunday, 11 June 1933, there was a baptism service in the Ohio River, following the pattern of the original Church. Several hundred new converts were baptised. As the young preacher was about to baptise the seventeenth person, he prayed, "Father, as I baptise them with water, so baptise Thou me with the Holy Spirit." At that moment it happened: a bright light like a star descended from heaven and stopped above him. From that light a voice rang out saying, **"As John the Baptist was sent before the first coming of Christ, so you are sent with a message that will precede the second coming of Christ."** In April 1966, on the occasion of a meeting in the U.S.A., I myself met about twelve people who were present at this event in June 1933.

The reaction of the crowd of about four thousand people who witnessed it varied. Some prayed, others fainted, others asked what it meant, and others ignored it. The Associated Press in the U.S.A. and Canada in particular reported on the extraordinary event. Each subsequent experience, especially the seven visions he had in 1933 about the future world development until the



end, contributed to the other preachers distancing themselves more and more from him. Even those who were close to him admitted that such experiences existed in biblical times, but denied that they still existed now.

When the young man of God was told that he would be sent all over the world to pray for kings and rulers, Br. Roy Davis said to him: "Billy, who will listen to you? You with your little schooling! ... You will speak to the pillars in the chapel and preach to empty chairs. People will not come to hear you." The answer was simple: "If it is God who sends me, He will also send the people to whom I will preach..."

On 7 May 1946, William Branham did indeed receive a heavenly visit. In the Old and New Testaments, we find many accounts of angels appearing when there was a special event: from Abraham to Daniel; from Zechariah to Mary. Over Bethlehem's corridors the heavenly hosts appeared, and the angel gave the greatest announcement of all time, that of the birth of the Saviour. Paul and also John, who was exiled to the island of Patmos, testify to it. In Heb. 1 we read of the angels: "*Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?*" (Heb 1:14)

On the evening of May 7th 1946, William Branham was in a room where he had already spent some time in prayer and Bible reading. Suddenly, at about 11.00 p.m., light came into the room from above, growing stronger and stronger and spreading. Let us let him tell us:

"When I looked up, the great star was hanging there, but it did not have five points, it looked more like a glowing ball of fire shining on the floor. Then I heard someone walking. I was even more frightened. For I knew of no one coming here but myself. In that light I saw a man coming towards me, as naturally as you come towards me. The man weighed about 85 kg and wore a white robe. He had a smooth face, no beard, dark hair down to his shoulders, a rather dark complexion, a very pleasant appearance, He came closer, our eyes crossed. He saw how frightened I was and said: 'Do not be afraid. I have been sent from the presence of Almighty God to tell you that your strange life and misunderstood ways indicate that God has sent you to the peoples of the world with a gift of divine healing. If you will be sincere and make people believe you, no sickness will be able to resist your prayer, not even cancer/words cannot express how I felt."

Also Daniel, Zacharias and Mary angel addressed with the words: "*Do not be afraid*". Our Lord did the same. Often He said: "*Do not be afraid*".

The angel went on to tell him: "**As two signs were given to Moses the prophet (Exodus 4), so two signs will be given to you. And people do not believe the first sign, they will believe the second.**" We find almost the same

wording in Exodus 4:8: "*And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe thee, neither hearken to the voice of the first sign, that they will believe the voice of the latter sign.*" Men with a special calling received special signs by which it was to be made clear to the people that God Himself was speaking and working here.

Then the angel explained the first sign to him. After the sermon and the prayer for all who wanted to consecrate their lives to the Lord, he was to pray for the sick. The first sign would be that he would take the patient's hand in his hand, literally showing the patient's own suffering on the back of his hand through discolouration and design. This should be followed by prayer for healing. The patient should observe the process on the back of the hand. If the prayer was answered and God brought about the healing, the marking would disappear before the eyes of the sufferer. This announcement was confirmed thousands of times, especially in the years 1946-1949. Many of those who were thus healed by a miracle of God felt it in their bodies, saw it happen before them, and not a few cried out aloud in overwhelm.

The angel then explained the use of the second gift, using several Bible passages. He referred to the ministry of our Lord and explained especially Joh. 5, 19 and 20, namely that He had worked as the Son of Man, as a prophet, and saw in visions what God wanted to do. "*Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. For the Father loveth the Son, and showeth him all things that himself doeth...*" (John 5:19-20). According to this Word, the Son of Man only carried out His ministry according to what was shown to Him in visions. The angel mentioned to brother Branham the two experiences from Joh. 1 with Peter and with Nathanael. When Andrew led his brother Simon to Jesus, we read, "*And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, a stone.*" (John 1:42) Never before had He seen Peter, and yet He knew his name and the name of his father. A similar thing happened to Nathanael, whom Philip brought to the Lord: "*Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile! ... Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee.*" (John 1:47-48) How overwhelmed Nathanael was and how he reacted to this revelation can be read by all.

The angel went on to refer to John 4 and mentioned the conversation the Lord had with the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. By revelation, according to what was shown to Him, He said to her: "*... for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband*" At the end of the conversation the woman exclaimed: "*I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called Christ; when He comes He will tell us everything...*" Jesus answered her: The angel also referred to other biblical passages in which similar cases occur where the

prophetic ministry of the Son of Man is particularly prominent. It was precisely in this ministry that the Pharisees sinned, saying, "*He has Beelzebub,*" etc. As a prophet, the Son of Man even discerned the motives and thoughts of the hearts, and it was precisely this that did not suit the spiritual leaders of that time. But in this way the spirits were revealed and separated. Lord God had said to Moses: "*I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their people, and I will put My words in his mouth, and he shall declare to them all things whatsoever I shall command him*" (Deut. 18:18; Acts 3:22-23).

The angel further explained that this same "sign of the Messiah" is repeated now as it was then with Jews and Samaritans in the church from the nations. Before almost each healing service, William Branham referred to these biblical passages which the angel had literally explained to him. The second gift was that based on what he was shown – he could tell people during the healing service what country they were from, what city, what their name was, who they were, what diseases they had, basically everything as it happened in the prophetic ministry of the Son of Man. I personally witnessed it many times in the meetings and was not a little surprised when this man of God told me on December 3<sup>rd</sup> 1962 exactly the wording with which the Lord had called me to ministry on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1962 before sunrise here in Krefeld. Here things are not invented and put into circulation, here it is truthfully testified before Almighty God that Jesus Christ has made Himself known in our generation in the same way as the Son of Man through the prophetic ministry, as it happened at that time when He walked on earth.

### **From clear Heaven**

In November 1949, William Branham notified Rev. Jack Moore and Rev. Gordon Lindsay, who had already witnessed his ministry on the West Coast of the U.S.A., that he would be holding meetings in Houston, Texas in January 1950. Word spread very quickly and people came from the surrounding area, so that the whole city was on the move. The spiritual leaders, who had no spiritual understanding, got excited and made scathing criticisms of these meetings. Among them, the Rev. Dr. Best stood out, calling for an open panel discussion with William Branham on the subject of "Healing the Sick Today" on January 24<sup>th</sup> 1950 before the 8,000 or so people who filled the Sam Houston Coliseum. He also invited the two professional photographers, Mr. James Ayers and Mr. Ted Kippermann, to capture particularly impressive moments.

The challenger, Dr. Best, was opposed by the Bible teacher Dr. F. F. Bosworth, whom I knew personally. He was a companion of William Branham and was asked to lead the discussion. Hours passed with this undignified spec-

tacle. The crowd joined in the discussion with loud affirmative shouts of "Amen" or loud "No" objections. When the audience was then asked, "How many of you have already been healed by God in the meetings?" hundreds stood up. The opponent had to admit defeat, albeit with loud remarks. When this part was over, William Branham came to the podium. He had taken a seat in the gallery and listened to everything, because it was about him and his ministry, especially about the gift of healing the sick. He calmly stepped in front of the microphone and said: "I have not come to defend myself. If it is God who has sent me, then He will argue for me."

At that moment, Mr. Ayers snapped the photo with the pillar of light over William Branham's head. The end of the meeting was late, and it was almost midnight when Mr. Ayers, who had sided with the critic Rev. Dr. Best, was amazed. All the other photographs he had taken had come to nothing, only one picture, the one - with the supernatural light over William Branham. Mr. Ayers hurried to the hotel that same night and asked William Branham if he knew that a supernatural light had been above him.

Since it was such a phenomenon, it was decided that this negative would be given to the first man in the state who was responsible for examining questionable documents. Dr. George J. Lacy gave his verdict in writing and confirmed that neither retouching nor double exposure had taken place and that this pillar of light was indeed there, otherwise it could not have been picked up by the camera at all. See Dr. Lacy's original report.

This light descended each time upon the person for whom William Branham was to pray for healing through the gift of revelation and discernment. He saw all that he had to share with the person from God in order to strengthen and build up their faith in the presence of God and thus in their own divine healing. Among the many thousands of cases in almost twenty years of this unique ministry, there was not a single failure. Everything was always right, one hundred percent. Asked if he was not afraid to tell people he did not know and of whom he knew nothing, he replied: "Why should I be afraid that something is wrong when it is God who shows it to me and speaks through me?"

William Branham mentioned several times that this strange photograph is the only one in the world with a supernatural being in Washington, DC. I myself saw the picture with the pillar of light in December 1969 at the Hall of Art. However, the elderly gentleman who accompanied me said to me: "This photo will not find public interest and will disappear in the drawer." Supernatural events were not uncommon in the lives of the prophets and apostles, but can only be believed by those who truly found grace before God. When Saul saw the bright light outside Damascus, he heard the voice of the Lord speaking from it and received his commission. Grasp it who can, it has been confirmed

in our time that God does not change, and it remains that Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and the same forever. If it is a repetition of the supernatural work of God, and we find the same already in the Holy Scriptures, then with the highest reverence for God the Lord we should respect His doing. In the time of Moses, the Lord came down in the pillar of light and fire and thus came with His direct visible presence over the Tent of Meeting. God is not dead. God lives and reveals Himself even today where He is believed and trusted. God is light and dwells in the light. He can reveal Himself in a supernatural cloud or even in supernatural fire. HE has done it; to Him be the glory.

### **Under the open sky**

It really happened, on February 28<sup>th</sup> 1963, as William Branham was shown in a vision on December 22<sup>nd</sup> 1962 and as he told his home church in advance on December 30<sup>th</sup> 1962. He was shown in a vision that seven angels (cherubim) would come down covered in a cloud. In this vision he saw the area and the individual events.

Without suspecting when it would happen, he went with some friends on February 28<sup>th</sup> into the wasteland of Tucson towards Flagstaff, Arizona, to hunt. His hunting friends went one way and he headed for the mountaintop as the Lord had ordained. Suddenly there was a crash as if there had been a tremendous detonation. When he looked up, he saw the seven angels and the cloud into which he was then taken. He counted the heavenly beings from right to left, facing him in the form of a pyramid. Their wings touched each other. The one on his extreme left, the last in the constellation, made a special impression on him and spoke to him. There on the mountain, from that cloud, the call went out to him: **"Return to Jeffersonville from whence you came, for the time to open the seven seals has come."** From 17-23 March 1963, he spoke on the seven seals of Revelation.

The light cloud that appeared there in the blue sky was visible to all. Dr. James McDonald from Arizona University in Tucson wrote several reports about it. For him, it was incomprehensible that a cloud at an altitude of 26 km could be there at all, still hovering in the sky 28 minutes after local sunset. On the one hand, he argued that cloud formation at this altitude was impossible, on the other hand, he could not bring himself to explain this phenomenon as a supernatural one. He stuck to the heading he had chosen for himself:

### **"... And a High Cloud Ring of Mystery".**

The US magazine *"Life"* published a short report in the issue of 17 May 1963 on page 112 with four photos. The journal *"Science"* published a much more

# ...And a High Cloud Ring of Mystery



Hanging like a giant's smile a great cloud appeared at sunset over Flagstaff, Arizona, last Feb. 21 and set off a continuing scientific mystery. Witnesses struck by the cloud's odd shape and huge size, took pictures. The three here, at different times and from widely scattered locations in the state. Dr. James McDonald, a meteorologist at the Institute of Atmospheric Physics in Tucson, has been investigating the picture. Using them as the basis for trigonometric calculations, he has made a startling discovery: that the cloud was at least 20 miles high and 20 miles across — or higher and larger," he says, "than a cloud should be. The only way it could be made by a jet plane, and so far as Dr. McDonald can determine, there were no rocket, nuclear planes or bombs being tested nearby that day. He hopes someone else with pictures will lend them to him, for he would like some more clues about the cloud. He wishes you — or water droplets exist at that height to make a cloud.



6:00 P.M., N.E. OF PRESCOTT



6:50 P.M., N. OF PHOENIX



6:30 P.M., W.N.W. OF WINSLOW

# SCIENCE

19 April 1963  
Vol. 140, No. 3564

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE



STRATOSPHERIC CLOUD

detailed report on page 292-293 already on 19 April 1963, even with the photo of the cloud on the front page.

As in all times, people have the same problem now, namely to recognise the supernatural work of God. Dr. James McDonald simply could not cope with this phenomenon and committed suicide a few years later. Why especially the Pentecostal preachers, who knew about it and whose congregations enjoyed the greatest growth through the mighty ministry of William Branham, kept silent about the gracious visitations of God and thus withheld from God's people what the Lord was doing in our time, remains incomprehensible.

Again and again I hear the same sentence: "Why has nothing ever been made known to the public about all these things?" The answer is very simple: the spiritual leaders have kept it from the people for different motives.

## Correction

I consider it necessary to make the following comment at the end of my brief remarks: Unjustifiably, William Branham is accused of many things that he did not say, including a statement that actually comes from Dr. Lee Vayle in his version. The aforementioned author wrote a pamphlet entitled "*The Laodicean Church Age*" and writes there on page 7: "So I repeat, I sincerely believe and maintain as a private student of the Word, along with divine inspiration that 1977 ought to terminate the world systems and usher in the millennium." Exactly the same wording is found in the book by William Branham "*An Exposition of the Seven Church Ages*" on page 322, which Lee Vayle edited. Unfortunately also in all the translations in the various languages. So it is completely wrong for anyone to claim, on the basis of this quotation, that it was William Branham who made a prediction which did not come true, namely that the worldly systems would end with the year 1977 and the Millennium would be ushered in. William Branham never said that. This human failure is clearly the fault of Dr Lee Vayle.

I do not want to give further explanations here. In any case, however, it must be pointed out that even now there are various groups who refer to Branham without their proclamation being in agreement with his and with the Holy Scriptures. May the Lord lead His people on the right road for the sake of His name and let us know the promises for this time and share in their fulfilment. May He complete His work with all those who believe and trust in Him. May the Lord make His face to shine upon us and be gracious to us. May the Lord lift up His face upon us and grant us His peace.

I hope to have served many with this explanation. God the Lord has always done what He set out to do. He took whom He wanted and is not accountable to any human being. Blessed are all those who recognise the work of God, which is always in connection with His plan of salvation, in their time, accept it and thus place themselves directly and consciously on God's side. It can be said with certainty that we are now living at the end of the time of grace and that the return of Jesus Christ is really near. The signs of the end times are clearly recognised by all Bible-believing Christians. We may lift up our heads because we know that our redemption is drawing near. May the biblical message entrusted to us serve to call all true believers out of all error and experience their preparation for the glorious day of the return of Jesus Christ.

*"And this message of salvation from the kingdom will be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations, and then the end will come" (Matth. 24:14).*

*"Take heed that ye reject not him that speaketh. For if those who rejected him who made himself known to them on earth did not go unpunished, how much less will we escape if we turn away from him who speaks from heaven" (Heb 12:25).*

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

\*



*George J. Lacy*  
*Examiner of Questioned Documents*  
*Hull Building*  
*Houston, Texas*

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

Reproduction and copying, even of extracts, is not permitted.  
Publisher: Ewald Frank, Missionary, 4150 Krefeld, Germany

