

Name: **Philip E. Dayvault**, Independent, investigative researcher, U.S.A.

Questions:

1. **When** and **how** did you first hear about the Shroud?
On November 24, 1973, while I was walking past my TV and overheard the commentator ask, "Could this be the Face of Jesus Christ?" Although I was watching in B&W, it was on the occasion of the first color television broadcast of the Shroud of Turin.
2. What interested you about the Shroud?
Immediately intriguing were the uniqueness of the photograph and the Shroud's vague history, as known at that time and as discussed in the program. Also, the possibility that the Cloth which actually wrapped the Body of Jesus Christ could potentially still exist today was most captivating.
3. Do you believe the Shroud is likely the burial cloth of Jesus Christ, a fake relic, or are you uncertain what to believe?
After full consideration of the available evidence and findings known to date, and that of my personal and objective research, I absolutely believe the Shroud of Turin is the 1st Century burial cloth of Jesus Christ, *beyond a reasonable doubt!* As a former FBI Special Agent and Laboratory Technician, I have been trained to objectively follow the evidence and investigative leads. However, it really doesn't matter what I personally believe or what others believe regarding the Shroud—what IS most important and matters the most...*is the Shroud, with its supporting evidence, ultimately believable?* Only after careful and objective consideration of the evidence can each person answer that specific question of the Shroud's authenticity in his/her own heart and mind.
4. What, if any, actions did you take after you first encountered the Shroud
(e.g., conduct research, contact people involved with it, etc.)?

Over the next few years, I began to pursue other available materials about the Shroud. Several subsequent articles were read and the June 1980 issue of National Geographic magazine was especially helpful in inspiring my interest in the Shroud.

5. Have you ever seen the Shroud at any of the exhibitions? If yes, which years?

Yes, about ten times on two separate occasions. The first occasion, in 1998, while participating in the III International Conference on the Holy Shroud; and again, in 2000, while attending the Exhibition of the Shroud.

6. What did you experience when you were in the presence of the Shroud?

I felt a sense of being in "awesome wonder." The Image of His Supreme Sacrifice for mankind and His Resurrection was displayed about 15 feet directly in front of me. Definitely, an extraordinary thought and sight!

7. Have you ever been involved in any scientific study of the Shroud? If yes, please describe **what motivated** your work and **why**.

For eight years, I served as Director of CSST and worked with Dr. Alan and Mary Whanger on various aspects of the Relics of the Passion, in part, by utilizing the Frei Collection and other research materials available to us. The idea of working directly with extant physical evidence of the Passion of Christ was the motivation and the need to help prepare the data and disseminate it to the world was the purpose.

8. Have you ever written anything about the Shroud, either factual or fictitious? If yes, please describe **what motivated** your work and **why**.

See under "Writings/Websites/Blogs."

9. Do you favor or believe any of the current theories on how the

image got onto the cloth? If so please name the theory.

Until further access to the Shroud is eventually permitted and more definitive testing conducted, I currently favor the Image formation mechanism from either some type of radiation, coronal discharge, and/or chemical reactions.

10. Do you feel that you have a calling or vocation to be involved somehow with the Shroud? If yes, please describe **what motivated** you to make a commitment to the Shroud and **why**.

For the past ten years, I have dedicated my entire life and God-given skills and talents to the study, research and advancement of knowledge about the Shroud of Turin. I feel it is a calling, a passion, to learn more about Him through the dedicated study of the Shroud.

Please describe below any other *personal* reflections, experiences, insights, or thoughts about the Shroud of Turin that you would like to share.

Writings/Websites/Blogs:

- 1) "A Study and Preliminary Proposal on the Protection and Security of the Shroud of Turin", an in-depth study submitted to H.E. Cardinal Saldarini, June 1996.
- 2) "The Sanctuary of the Shroud: a Security Challenge", presented at the III International Conference on the Holy Shroud of Turin, Turin, Italy, June 1998.
- 3) "The Frei Collection Digitization Project", presented at the III International Conference on the Holy Shroud of Turin, Turin, Italy, June 1998.
- 4) "Security Matters", presented at the 1st Roundtable Discussion on the Holy Tunic of Argenteuil, Argenteuil, France, November 1998.
- 5) "CSST Overview and Objectives", presented at the American Conference on Sindonology, Dallas, TX, November 1998.
- 6) "Oil Lamps and the Shroud", presented at the 2nd Roundtable Discussion on the Holy Tunic of Argenteuil, Argenteuil, France, November 2000. (Slide presentation)

