A NEW THEORY OF THE SHROUD'S IMAGE FORMATION

Long overdue has been introduction to U.K. readers of an offbeat but nonetheless intriguing theory of the Shroud's image formation advanced by Oswald Scheuermann of Behringersdorf, W. Germany. Although highly technical, the basis of Scheuermann's argument is that what he sees as slight distortions to the Shroud image, such as seemingly wide eye sockets, derive from an image-forming process in which the body "radiated" in all directions.

According to an article by Scheuermann "Is there a special discharge image on the Shroud?", he has:

... tried out by way of experiment a complex image-creating mechanism that corresponds almost entirely with the evidence on the Shroud.

In this a high energy electron emission in the electric field is postulated as "programming" images onto the Shroud, due to electrons being emitted almost vertically to the surface of the image receiver. The electrons ionize, create heat, ultraviolet light and ozone. If emitted abruptly, they have a surface-activating effect, creating a latent image which only becomes visible as oxidation, or yellowing, after a special ageing process. As Scheuermann has summarised this:

In short, a "flaring up" of an electrically conductive object, even an organic object, caused by electrons, can programme an image onto linen chemically, and in an electrical field, physically akin to that on the Shroud.

To demonstrate his arguments Scheuermann has produced electrophotographic images of a St. Anthony medallion on photographic paper, see below:



As Scheuermann asks, could the Shroud's image have been "the result of an accidental monopole discharge due to a ball lightning"? Or was it the Resurrection acting in the same way? Scheuermann's ideas are not easy to follow or convey, both because of their technicality and the difficulties of German translation. But he corresponds in English, and any member who wishes to pursue his ideas further is invited to write to him directly at Am Neubruch 25, D-8501 Behringersdorf/Nürnberg, W. Germany.