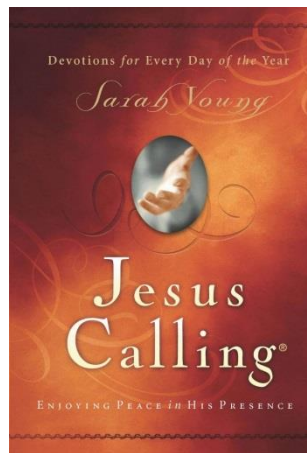


The Dangers of Sarah Young, *Jesus Calling*, and Beth Moore

Sarah Young and *Jesus Calling*

Sarah Young, author of the best-selling book *Jesus Calling*, claims to have heard, and still regularly hear, God speak to her outside of Scripture.



Jesus Calling began flying off the bookshelves in secular and Christian stores in 2004 and then resurfaced in the last couple of years we believe due to the Emergent and Mystical Movements. Her book is filled with little “devotionals” in which she claims to have received revelation / words directly from God Himself through “conversations” with Him.

She offers a years’ worth of these devotionals, all of which are written in the first person, as messages from Jesus. Each of them is followed with a few Scripture passages.

Jesus Calling, Intro, page 12

“...I knew that God communicated with me through the Bible, but I yearned for more...”

So Sarah wasn’t content with what God has revealed in Scripture?

CBN.COM INTERVIEW -

“My journey began with a devotional book (*God Calling*) written in the 1930’s by two women who practiced waiting in God’s Presence, writing the messages they received as they “listened.” About a year after I started reading this book, I began to wonder if I too could receive messages during my times of

communing with God. I knew that God communicates through the Bible (and I treasure His Word), but I wondered what He might say to me personally on a given day. So I decided to "listen" to God with pen in hand, writing down whatever I sensed He was saying.”



She goes on:

“I simply pray, "Help me, Holy Spirit," and I listen. Eventually, I "hear" a phrase or sentence, and I write it down. As I listen and write, I continue asking for the Holy Spirit's help. I also thank Jesus for the message as I receive it from Him. I may take short breaks from listening, to read what I've already written. I try to relax and enjoy Jesus' Presence, not becoming overly focused on writing. Scripture often comes to mind, and I write that in whatever version I remember it. “

She was asked if it was awkward doing this:

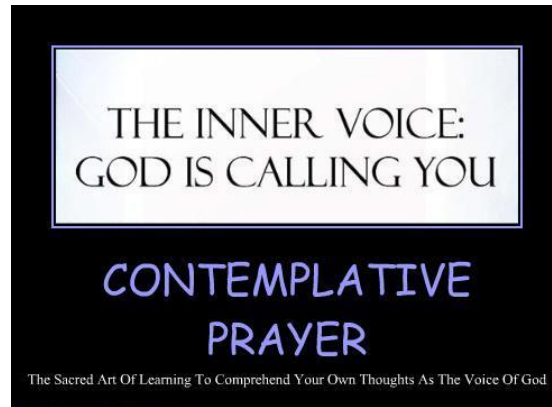
“It felt a little awkward the first time I tried it, but I did receive a short message... at that point my journaling changed from monologue to dialogue. Day by day, messages began to flow more freely. This new way of communicating with God became the high point of my day.”

She also said:

“I knew that my writings were not inspired (as only Scripture is).”

Friends, one can't have it both ways.

The only actual words God ever spoke, or ever will speak, is only in Scripture.



If Sarah did, in fact, get new revelations from God (she did not) then Ms. Young's new revelations need to be officially added to Holy Scripture.

The only major problem with that idea is found in Revelation 22:18-19 –

“I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.”

Those are powerful words directed at those such as Sarah Young.

Sarah Young describes in her book about taking pen in hand and waiting for God to speak to her. This practice is actually an occultic activity called "automatic writing."

Ask anyone involved in the New Age or Occult, and they will tell you that they do this often, and it's a very, very dark practice that opens the person up to all sorts of spiritual evil and wickedness.

And if you ask these New Age practitioners about these message in *Jesus Calling* - supposedly given by "Jesus" - they will tell you that they are eerily similar to messages given from their "spirit guides" in the occult.

These practitioners will tell you about that same "voice," with its message of easygoing love, with soothing exhortations to simply rest in the presence of God, to love others, to be at peace and know that God loves you, all of which are all over *Jesus Calling*.

But this "voice," the one that is emanating from the pages of *Jesus Calling*, is not the authoritative voice of the God of the Bible.

Yes, God does reveal through his word that born again believers are loved by him and reconciled to him, but his is a holy, purifying love.

Believers are continually exhorted to holiness and purity, to put off sin and put on Christ, to be on guard for false teaching and false teachers, to study the Bible to show themselves approved, and of course, the gospel message is everywhere in the Bible.

That is the overarching theme: man is sinful and without hope, and yet God, in his mercy, made a way for man to be reconciled to himself.

This is not a small thing, this is the main thing.

In the intro, page 13 -

“The Bible is, of course, the only inerrant Word of God; my writings must be consistent with that unchanging standard.” But they are not!



In Jesus Calling, there is nothing of God's pure holiness, his wrath against sin, man's inability to save himself, and thus his desperate need for a Savior, nothing of the Cross, and no call for repentance.

That is a serious problem.

In fact, in her book, Sarah describes her conversion while walking alone in the snow-covered mountains.

"...suddenly I felt as if a warm mist enveloped me. I became aware of a lovely Presence, and my involuntary response was to whisper 'Sweet Jesus.' This utterance was totally uncharacteristic of me, and I was shocked to hear myself speaking so tenderly to Jesus. As I pondered this brief communication, I realized it was the response of a converted heart; at that moment I knew I belonged to Him."

The response of a converted heart is repentance from sin, growth in holiness, and love for God's written Word.

Sarah's idea of conversion is a warm mist around her and a whisper to Jesus. That's not how Biblical conversion happens.

We know multiple former New Agers and Occultists who are more convinced than ever that Sarah Young has indeed made contact with the demonic spiritual realm with this book.

It's not the Jesus of the Bible she's talking to.

BETH MOORE



Popular teacher Beth Moore has claimed to receive direct revelation from God.

Unfortunately, Southern Baptists are experiencing a growing apostasy with the wide acceptance of Rick Warren, Beth Moore, Henry Blackaby, Sarah Young, and others.

Beth Moore gives lip service to the Bible but, just the same as mystics like Doug Pagitt, Tony Jones, and Sarah Young, subjective personal experience eventually overshadows what the text of Holy Scripture actually says.

In other words, they read the Bible through the lens of whatever they think God said directly to them.

Beth Moore, *The Beloved Disciple*, (B&H Publishing: 2003), 220. -

“Beloved, I am convinced one of our severest needs is pure rest. Not only sleep, but refreshment and recreation. Recently God spoke to me about capturing what He and I are calling "Sabbath moments." Like many of yours, my schedule right now is particularly tough, and I see no time in the near future for a number of days off. God spoke to my heart one Saturday morning while I was preparing for Sunday school: "My child, in between more intense rests, I want to teach you to take Sabbath moments."

She goes on to say how she somehow pulled into the Houston Zoo as if on autopilot, and Christ told her to “go play” at the Houston Zoo where she and God “had a blast.”

Yet again Moore continues in *Believing God*, 2005], DVD, Session 1 -

“And this came as a direct revelation of the Spirit because this would never have come to me. I know God spoke this over me as He began turning through a concordance in my mind and I started thinking about one Scripture after another.... What God began to say to me about five years ago, and I’m telling you it sent me on such a trek with Him, that my head is still whirling over it. He began to say to me, ”I’m gonna tell you something right now, Beth, and boy you write this one down, and you say it as often as I give you utterance to say it: ‘My Bride is paralyzed by unbelief. My Bride is paralyzed by unbelief.’”

I would suggest again, as before, that if Beth Moore has received new revelations / words from God, then those revelations need to be officially added to Holy Scripture.

Any claim that is made, then, that God continues to speak outside of His Word, and deliver direct, personal revelation, is one that must be considered with great seriousness.



After all, since God always speaks with authority, then such revelations must be perceived to be as inspired as Scripture.

Now, they may say that their messages are not inspired, but if you carry this idea out to its logical conclusion – yes, it should be just as inspired.

Any private prophecy, voice, dream or vision that is claimed to be from God must find a place in the back of our Bibles, and our Bible 'reading plans' must be extended to include these words.

Shouldn't they?

Here's more from her series, *Believing God* -

She explains a vision that God gave her while sitting on her back porch – a picture in her head that she claims God gives to her since she's a visual person.

“And it was as if I was raised up looking down on a community, as I saw the Church in that particular dimension- certainly not all dimensions, not even in many, but in what we will discuss tonight, the church, as Jesus sees it, in a particular dimension.”

And she goes on to describe her vision which includes the Roman Catholic church as just another denomination within many denominations in Christianity.

The Roman Catholic church is a heretical, false, damning, satanic system.

It's not part of Christianity, and if Beth Moore believes that it is, then either she is blatantly lying or she does not understand the gospel, or both.

Either way, the God of the Bible would not give anyone this type of information, and He did not give it to Beth Moore, either.

Her own blog from January 1, 2014 -

“A year after hearing from God so clearly about sowing further than the field that I’d loved and served in for so long, I had a very disturbing dream. I can count the significant dreams I’ve had through the decades on one hand so I’m not prone to look for messages in my sleep to keep from having to actually pray and read the Bible. That God can speak through dreams is clear in our own Bibles, of course, but for many of us it is unusual. I don’t feel the release right now to describe the dream though I may someday. What I do feel is a strong compelling to share with you what I knew beyond a doubt it meant. I believe that I can either be obedient to God in the faith walk He is setting before me or He will take my voice.”

Again, this is plain mysticism, pure and simple.

So, God has used a dream to warn her that He will "take her voice" if she does not comply with the word she allegedly received in 2012?

Assuming for argument's sake that her claims are true, and thus setting sola Scriptura temporarily aside, the question may rightly be asked, "Why Beth Moore?"

Why has Beth Moore been chosen to receive such clear, direct and personal revelation from Almighty God?

Why not you? Why not your pastor?

What has Beth done to warrant such special treatment?



What if women, who long to be as spiritual as Moore appears, have not experienced such intimate conversations with God? What must they be doing wrong?

What is lacking in their faith?

The good news for those who have found themselves in this disheartened state is this: God has spoken to you.

Do you own a Bible? If so, find it, open it and read it.

There before you are the living and piercing words of the one and only true God.

These words are final, complete and sufficient.

They are God-breathed

Don't seek a temporary experience in the form of a voice, vision. Seek instead the pure and undefiled, objective truth of our holy God.

These things are becoming more prevalent within evangelical youth movements, which are converging together around this .

It doesn't matter one iota what anyone may personally believe about a given subject. Whatever God says is right; period, end of discussion.

FINAL

However, for hyper-charismatics like Beth Moore, Sarah Young, Kim Walker-Smith, and Jesus Culture, their experience, for themselves and countless others, will trump the text of the Bible.