

To Beth,

I can appreciate that you can say that you do not hold these visions as equal with scripture. However, in my research I have found several places where you have referred to God himself literally speaking to you. The one example I have noted is during a lesson about the bride of Christ where you said God spoke this:

"I'm gonna say something right now, Beth. And boy you write this one down.."

Another example would from *Jesus, the One and Only*, (p. 47) where you said

"Sometimes He'll cause me to dig through Scripture for a question He seemed to initiate. Other times the question may come as a personalized whisper in my heart: 'Beth, why are you acting that way?' Often my answer is 'I don't know, Lord! Can you tell me why?' If I really search His heart, sooner or later He'll give me insight into my reactions,"

There are more, but in these two examples, without any clear explanation from you; I, as the listener/reader am left wondering things like: What does God sound like? Where is an example in scripture of God whispering to anyone? What exactly is a personalized whisper? It confuses me. It would greatly relieve me to find out that this was just a misrepresented example of you trying to say that the Holy Spirit is impressing on your heart. But these two, amongst several other examples, seem to suggest that there is some sort of audible communication going on. If the Bible is God's *Word*, and Christ is the *Word* become flesh; it would follow that any audible speaking from the King of Kings is equal to scripture.

This is where my largest problem with this lies, because Paul clearly tells us not to go beyond what is written (1 Corinthians 4:6). He could say this, because he was an apostle; directly witnessing Jesus via Damascus Road, and under direct influence to write what we have as the NT. He was even capable of performing signs and wonders.

I believe the Word is clear that we are guided by the Holy Spirit who is in our hearts (2 Cor. 1:22) bearing witness, (Rom. 8:16), helping us pray (Rom. 8:26) and convicting us of sin (John 16:8); but in these examples it seems to go way beyond that. Instead, it seems that you are claiming to

know the exact words that God himself is saying to the church. It strongly suggests that these extra-biblical revelations are on a level equal to the apostles themselves. If I am wrong in asserting that, then what *did* you mean?

I must admit that with the people you have associated yourself with, you seem to have had the firmest grasp on basic biblical principles, but these things you seem to be implying are in direct contrast to the Word.

I'm not out to convert you to what I believe, or claim that anyone who doesn't agree with me is wrong. I am simply acting upon what the Holy Spirit has pressed on my heart. I believe that I am justifiably following the things scripture is very clear on.

So, does God speak audibly to you? If not, where do you get the terminology like "whispers" and "He told you, you'd better do something.."

I am thankful for this dialog, and don't have much more to address. Though, if you don't mind I do have one more topic I would like to discuss once I understand your stance on this issue.

Thanks again,

Jess