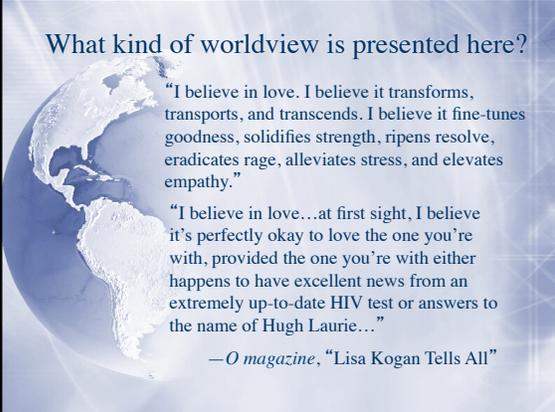


**Keeping The Focus**

Writing with a  
Biblical Worldview

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CCWC, May, 2015

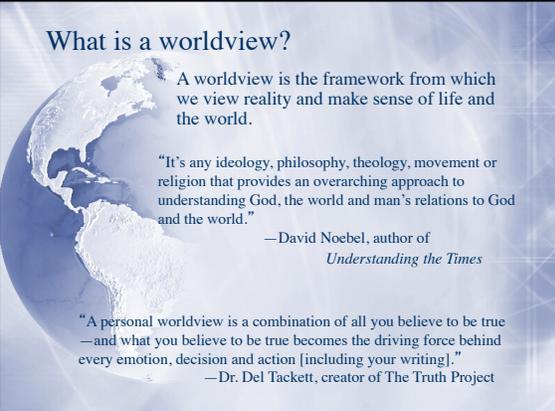


What kind of worldview is presented here?

“I believe in love. I believe it transforms, transports, and transcends. I believe it fine-tunes goodness, solidifies strength, ripens resolve, eradicates rage, alleviates stress, and elevates empathy.”

“I believe in love...at first sight, I believe it’s perfectly okay to love the one you’re with, provided the one you’re with either happens to have excellent news from an extremely up-to-date HIV test or answers to the name of Hugh Laurie...”

—O magazine, “Lisa Kogan Tells All”



What is a worldview?

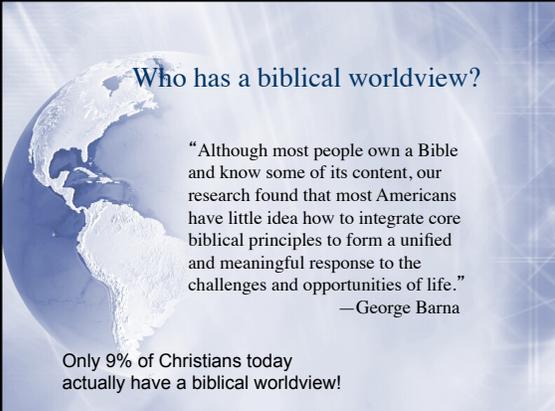
A worldview is the framework from which we view reality and make sense of life and the world.

“It’s any ideology, philosophy, theology, movement or religion that provides an overarching approach to understanding God, the world and man’s relations to God and the world.”

—David Noebel, author of *Understanding the Times*

“A personal worldview is a combination of all you believe to be true—and what you believe to be true becomes the driving force behind every emotion, decision and action [including your writing].”

—Dr. Del Tackett, creator of The Truth Project



Who has a biblical worldview?

“Although most people own a Bible and know some of its content, our research found that most Americans have little idea how to integrate core biblical principles to form a unified and meaningful response to the challenges and opportunities of life.”

—George Barna

Only 9% of Christians today actually have a biblical worldview!

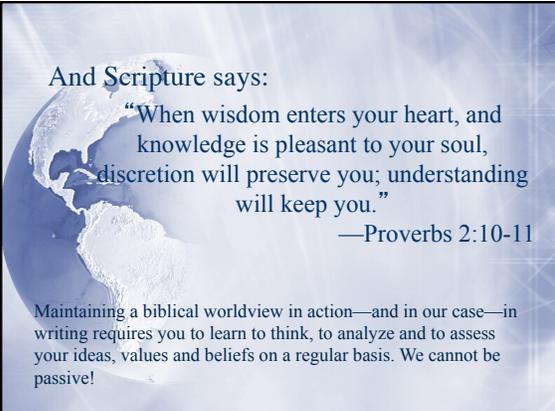


**Where does worldview come from?**

- ▶What’s a biblical worldview based upon?
- ▶Where do we get secular/humanistic worldviews?
- ▶Why do we fall prey to secular worldviews?

**How can we stay focused on writing with a biblical worldview?**

1. Learn and apply God’s Word to our lives.
2. Develop a deep comprehensive faith that stands against the secular culture.
3. Choose to make the right decisions in light of God’s truth.

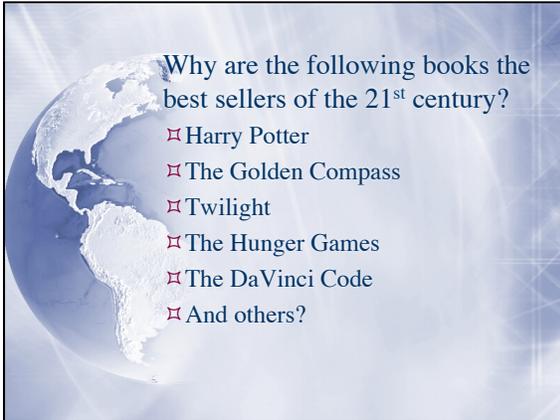


And Scripture says:

“When wisdom enters your heart, and knowledge is pleasant to your soul, discretion will preserve you; understanding will keep you.”

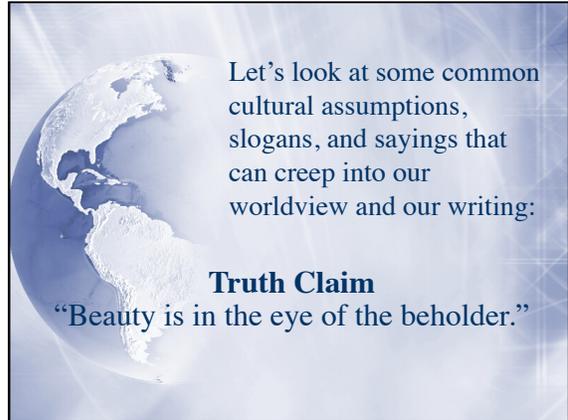
—Proverbs 2:10-11

Maintaining a biblical worldview in action—and in our case—in writing requires you to learn to think, to analyze and to assess your ideas, values and beliefs on a regular basis. We cannot be passive!



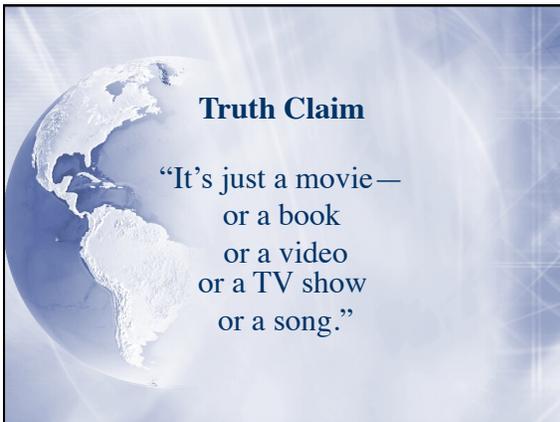
Why are the following books the best sellers of the 21<sup>st</sup> century?

- ✘ Harry Potter
- ✘ The Golden Compass
- ✘ Twilight
- ✘ The Hunger Games
- ✘ The DaVinci Code
- ✘ And others?



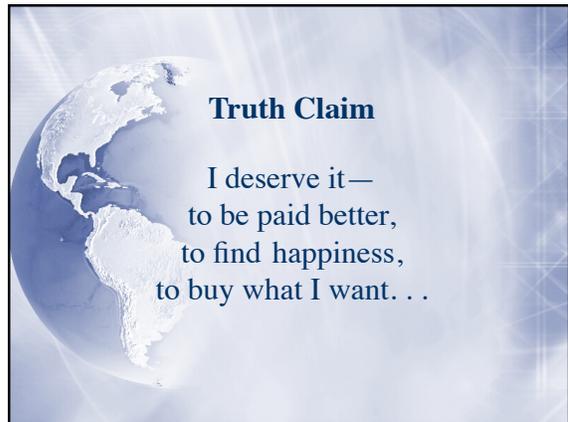
Let's look at some common cultural assumptions, slogans, and sayings that can creep into our worldview and our writing:

**Truth Claim**  
“Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.”



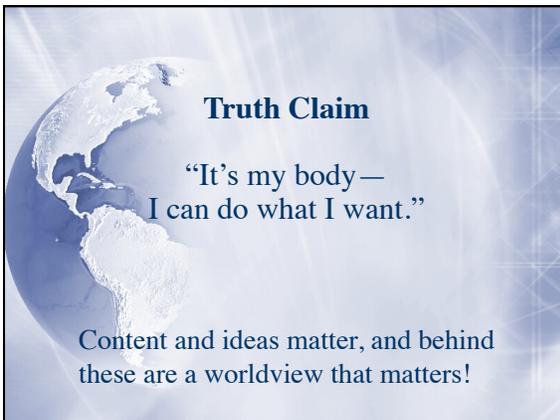
**Truth Claim**

“It’s just a movie—  
or a book  
or a video  
or a TV show  
or a song.”



**Truth Claim**

I deserve it—  
to be paid better,  
to find happiness,  
to buy what I want. . .



**Truth Claim**

“It’s my body—  
I can do what I want.”

Content and ideas matter, and behind these are a worldview that matters!



How to recognize subtle non-Christian worldview perspectives:

- Assess idioms.
- Pay attention to marketing.
- Analyze common-held beliefs presented in news stories.
- Be alert while watching movies or TV.
- Discuss what you read and watch with others.

What about this excerpt from a Christian author:



“Every phrase where the Psalmist expressed his feelings, I highlighted pink, and the places where he proclaimed God’s truth, I colored green. The result was an interesting pattern: Pink, green. Pink, green. Pink, green... Feelings, truth. Feelings, truth. Immediately, God showed me that His plan for our lives involves the blending of our emotions with His truth. Why? Because one without the other will never usher in emotional healing.”

What worldview is presented here?



“In contrast to self-promotion, the Bible teaches that salvation, righteousness, help...come from the Lord, not from exalting ourselves. So how do we avoid self-aggrandizing self-promotion yet find the elusive promotions we desire?”

Is there anything wrong here?



“I now tell people I am a consultant, writer, and aspiring entrepreneur. I consider myself all of these things. If I am comfortable enough to tell people this, then it must be true, right?”

How about this ad?



Dove® believes in pro-age™, not anti-age

Dove® wants to instill a new attitude in the anti-aging category – from negative and fear-driven to affirmative and hope-driven. In doing so, we hope to encourage and inspire more women to see the potential that lies within their skin and hair. And themselves. Dove® pro-age™ is our commitment to women who are entering the most exciting stage of their lives.

87% of women believe they are too young to be old...

- read the Dove global study on beauty and age
- view pro-age™ ads
- learn about living a pro-age™ life
- spread the word with an eCard

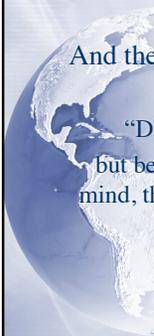
What about this media campaign?

Pass it on!



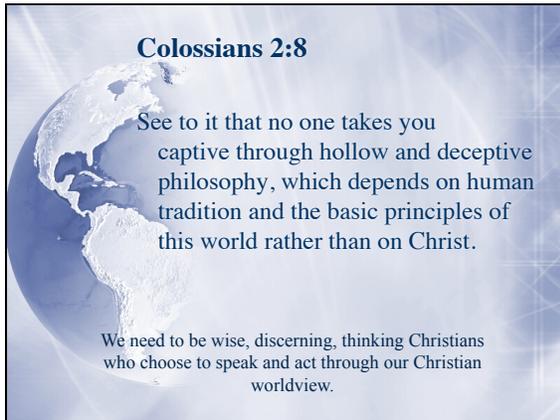
**VALUES.COM** THE FOUNDATION FOR A BETTER LIFE®

And the Scripture says....



“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect”

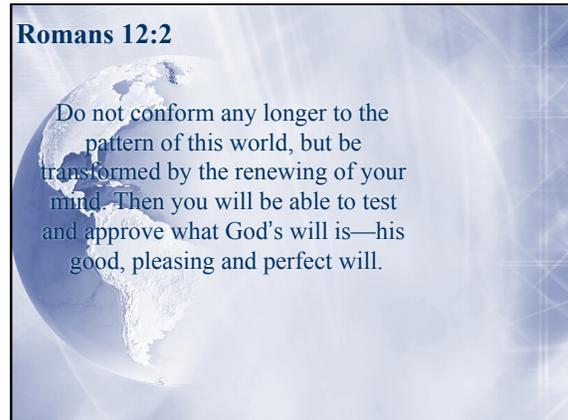
Romans 12:2 esv.



**Colossians 2:8**

See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.

We need to be wise, discerning, thinking Christians who choose to speak and act through our Christian worldview.



**Romans 12:2**

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.



Questions?  
Thoughts?

Thanks for coming!  
[www.SusanGMathis.com](http://www.SusanGMathis.com)