

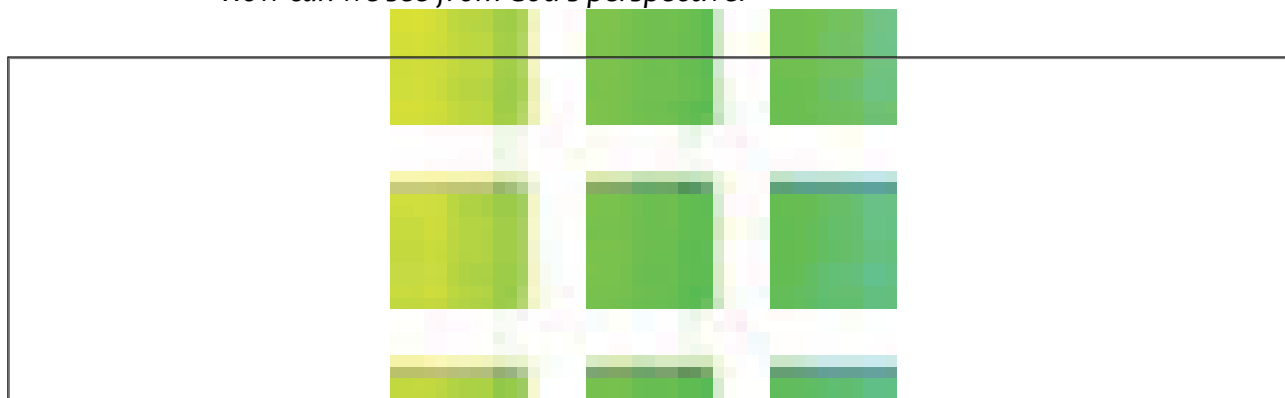
The Motive Of A Christian Writer

To emphasize that the motive for writing is very important before God and what the motive should be

A. Motive matters

- We think differently *Isaiah 55⁸ Psalm 92⁵ Matthew 7²¹⁻²³ Numbers 20⁷⁻¹²*
 - i. Men are primarily concerned with the `what'
 - ii. God is concerned with the `how'
 - iii. God is concerned with the `why'

✓ *How can we see from God's perspective?*



B. Motive check

- 1) Popularity vs. influence *1Samuel 13⁶⁻¹³ 1Samuel 14⁶ Proverbs 14²⁸ Acts 2^{46,47} Luke 19¹⁷ 1Corinthians 3⁶ Matthew 5¹³⁻¹⁶*

- a. People write to be noticed and regarded with great favour, approval, or affection especially by the public
 - i. The number game
 - Saul was disturbed by people leaving him
 - Jonathan said: God is able to save by a few
 - Using number as a yardstick
 - ii. God gives increase
 - At his discretion
 - As a reward to faithfulness
- ✓ *How do you know when you are writing for popularity?*

b. The Christian writer should write to influence

i. Light penetrates and often seen

ii. Salt penetrates without being seen

✓ Should/how do we measure influence?

2) Pleasing men vs. pleasing God Romans 14⁸ Galatians 1¹⁰ 1Thesalonians 2⁴

a. People write to please their

i. Masters

ii. Sponsors

iii. Fans

iv. Publishers

✓ How do you know when you are writing to please men?

b. The Christian writer should write to primarily please God in

- i. Objective
- ii. Content
- iii. Timing
- iv. Modality

✓ How do you balance pleasing God and men?

3) Pecuniary gains vs. fulfillment 1Timothy 6^{5,6} Titus 1^{10,11} 1Corinthians 9¹⁻¹⁸

a. People write for pecuniary gains which could be monetary or material

- This gives happiness: external, temporal

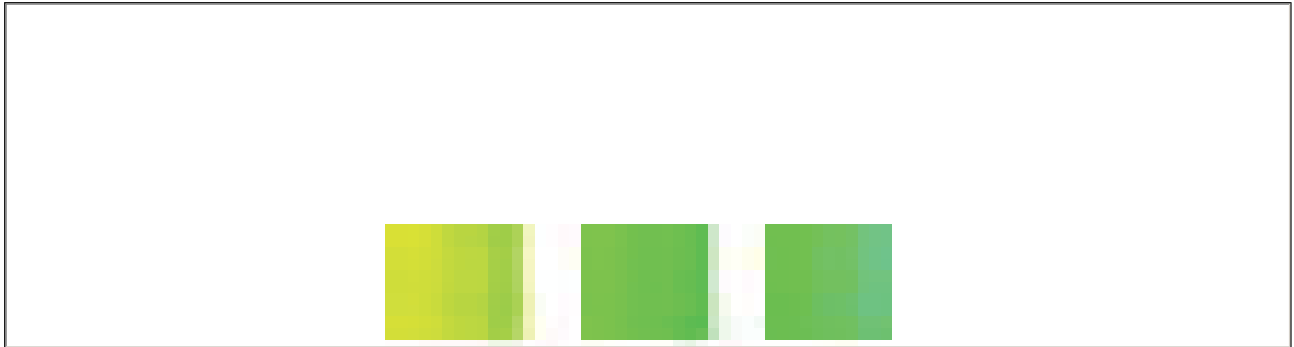
✓ How do you know when you are writing for gains?

b. The Christian writer should write for fulfillment

- This gives joy: internal, eternal

✓ Does fulfillment foot the bills?

- a. People write to strive for the same response other writers received
 - i. Self-promotion
 - ii. Complex issues
 - ✓ *How can we operate above competition?*



- b. The Christian writer should write to complement
 - i. One body, one head to account to and please
 - ii. One body, diverse parts with varying styles and angles
 - ✓ *How can Christian writers complement one another?*

