

1 CORINTHIANS

The Gospel
in Community

WHEN FAITH AND LIFE COLLIDE

THE GOSPEL AND SEXUALITY

I Corinthians 6:9- 7:5



1 COR 6:9-11

11 And such were some of you.

Sexual sins	Non Sexual Sins
Sexually immoral	Thieves,
Adulterers	Greedy
Homosexuals	Drunkards
	Revilers,
	Swindlers

SOCIETY'S SLOGANS

SEX
is
Power

*Sex is a part
of nature.
I go along
with nature.*

Marilyn Monroe

*All you
Need is*
SEX

SOCIETY'S SLOGANS



TWO POSITIONS THREE SLOGANS



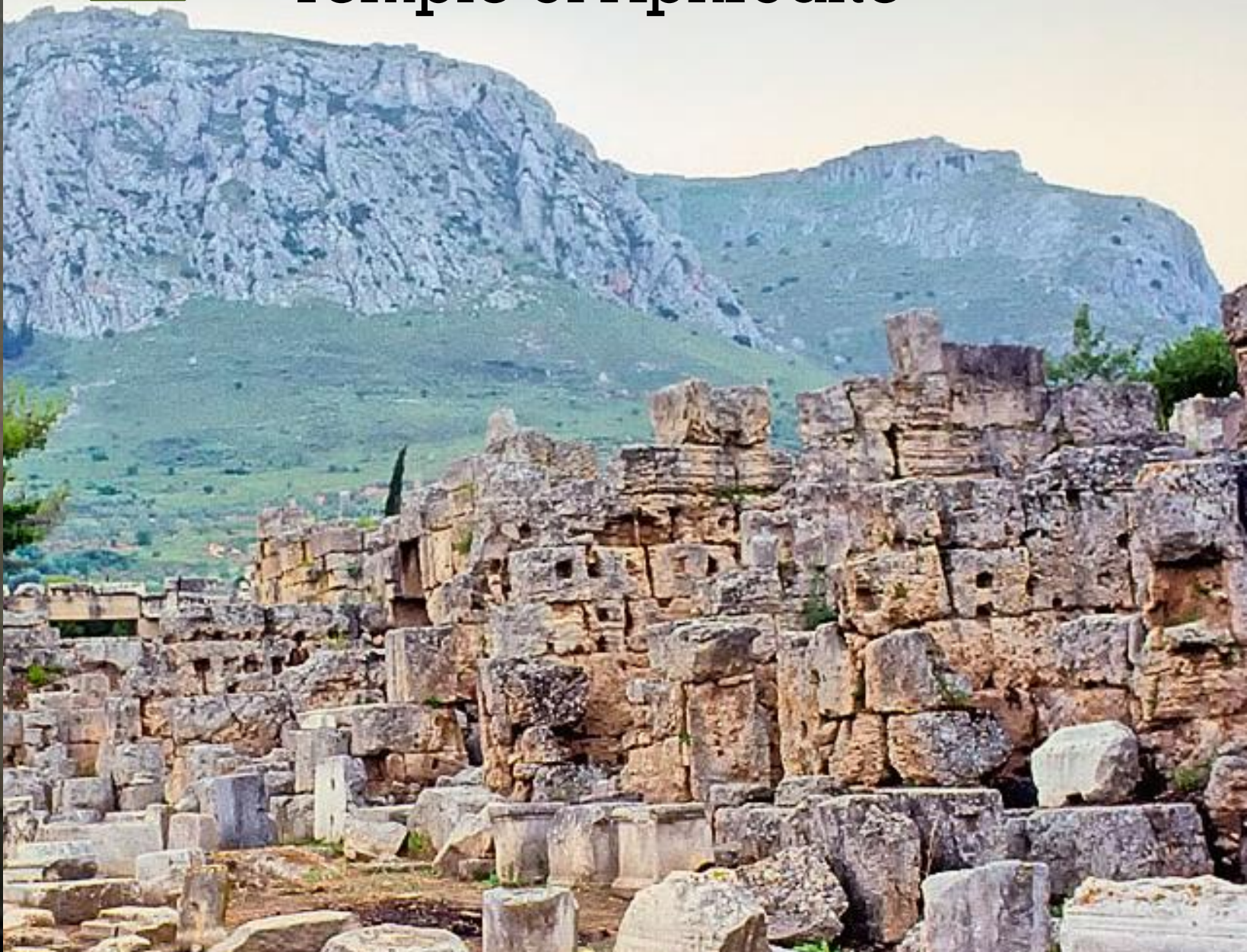


1. SEXUAL SIN IS A FORM OF IDOLATRY

1 Corinthians 6:12 (ESV) All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything.



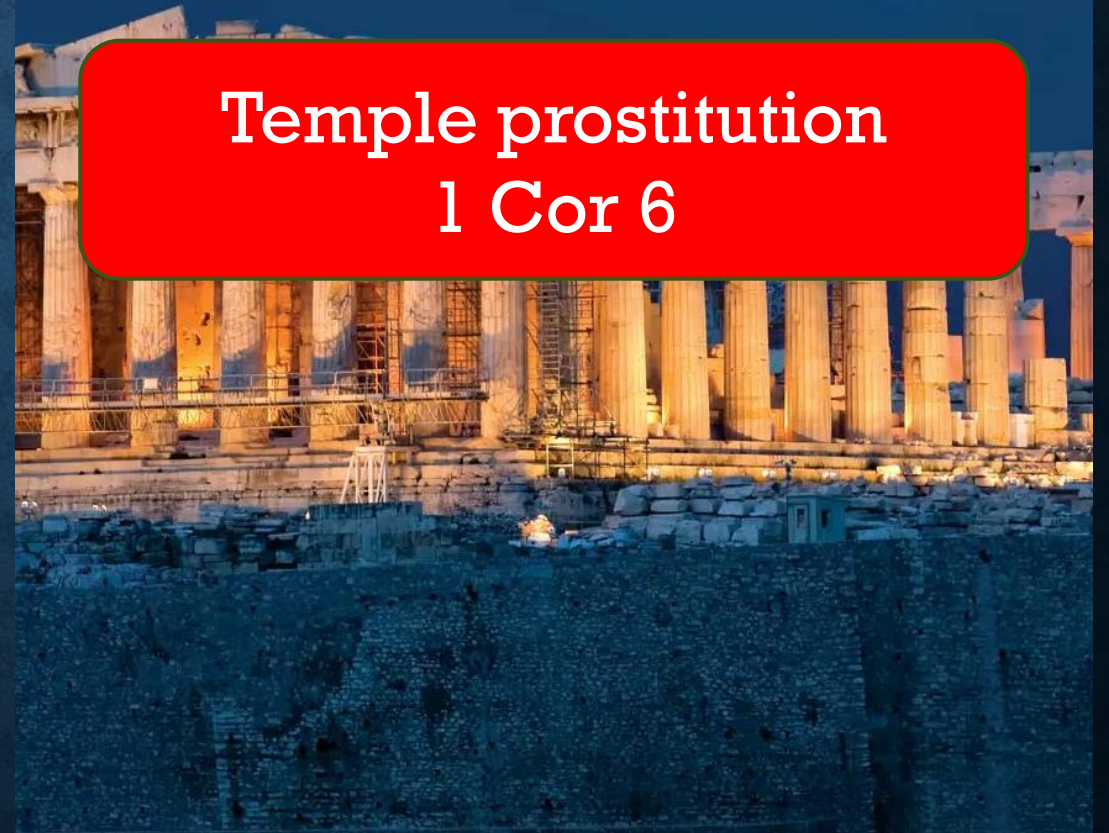
Temple of Aphrodite

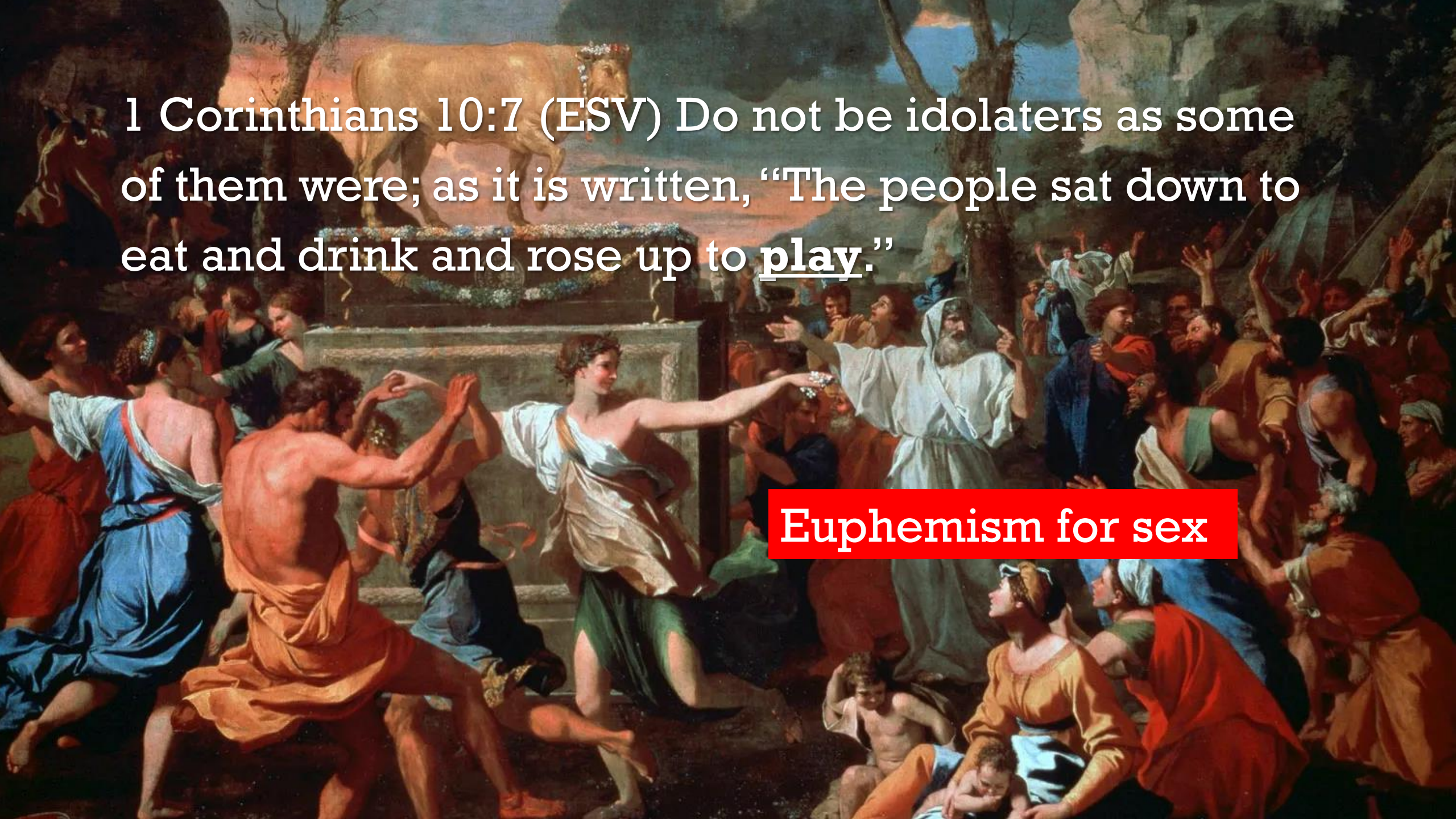




Food offered to Idols
1 Cor 8-10

Temple prostitution
1 Cor 6



A classical painting depicting a religious scene. In the center, a golden bull stands on a pedestal, surrounded by a crowd of people. A central figure in white robes, possibly a priest or prophet, is gesturing towards the bull. The scene is set outdoors with trees and a landscape in the background. The overall style is characteristic of the Baroque or Rococo period.

1 Corinthians 10:7 (ESV) Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.”

Euphemism for sex

The hook up
Booty call

SEXUAL REVOLUTION

Adobe Stock | #311174177



ASHLEY MADISON[®]

Life is short. Have an affair.[®]

[SEE YOUR MATCHES >](#)



ST AUGUSTINE



“I was bound down by this disease of the flesh. Its deadly pleasures were a chain that I dragged along with me, yet I was afraid to be freed from it”.

PARADOX OF SEXUAL FREEDOM



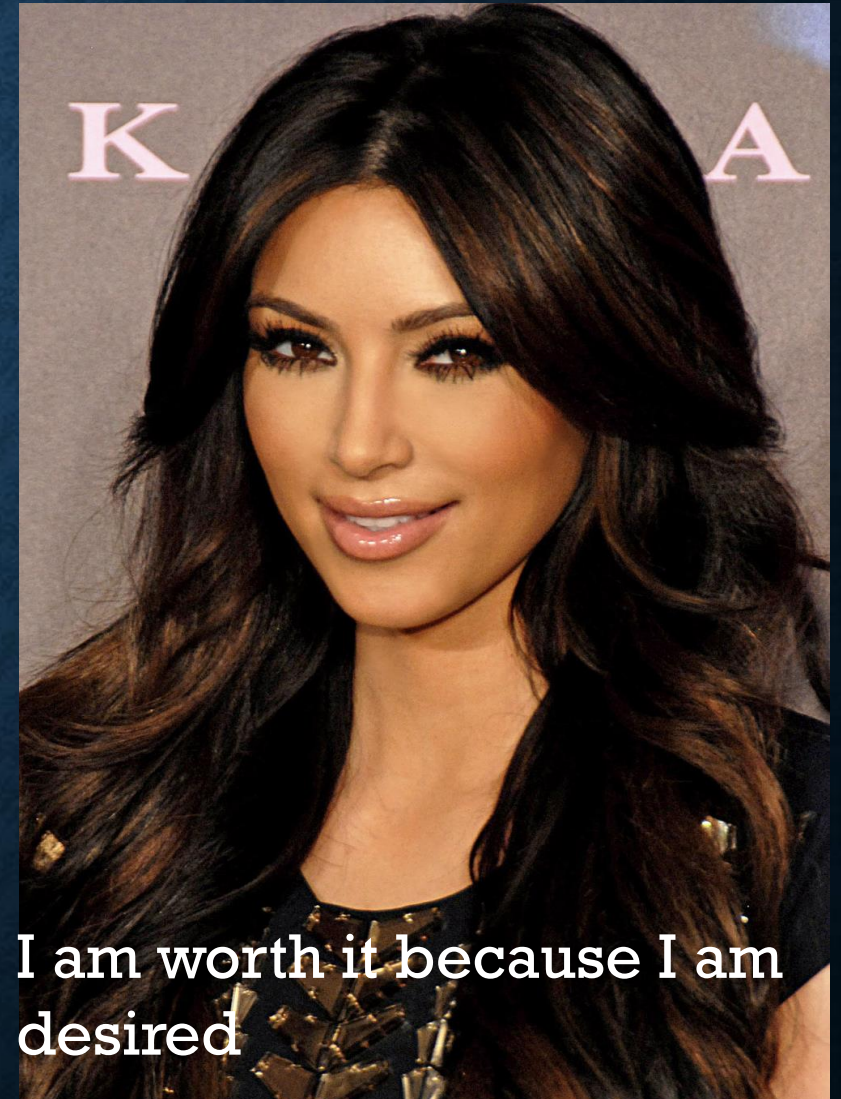
- Desensitizing Pornography
- Weird sex
- Loneliness 26% women on some antidepressant
- STD,
- Abortions
- Fatherless children ..US blacks 70%
- Declining marriage

SELF ESTEEM BASED ON SEX

Sex life based on confidence or insecurity?



I am desired
because I am
worth it



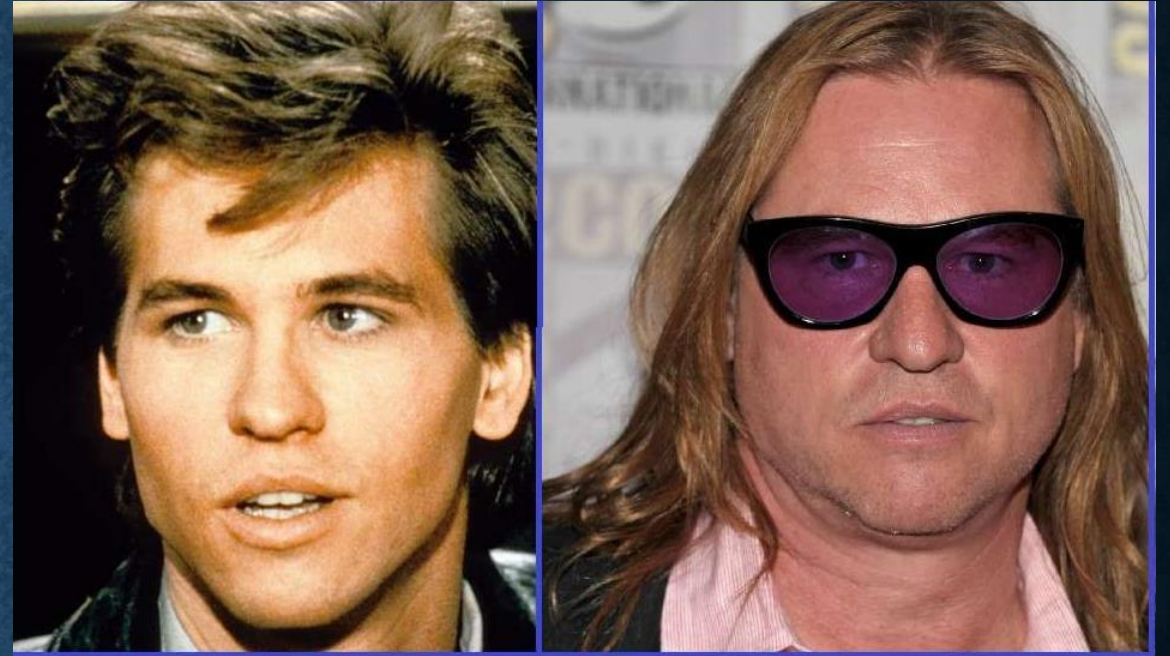
I am worth it because I am
desired

SEXUAL PARADOX



Objectify
Self worth
Validation





DEATH BY A THOUSAND CUTS



SEX AS A RIGHT

How does someone with special needs fulfil their inalienable right to the pursuit of life, liberty and human sexual contact?

Kate Lette Canberra Times

A photograph of a woman in a red dress sitting on a metal pole at night. She is holding a cigarette in her right hand. The background is a blurred city street at night with warm lights.

PROSTITUTE

"sex care provider who is presenting herself as a commodity allotment within a business doctrine".

Kate Lette Canberra Times



PARADOX OF SEXUAL FREEDOM

**“I wish I weren’t so horny, so I
didn’t need to go out and get it so
much. I wish I could take a pill to
kill my desire,”**

**Leslie C. Bell Ph.D., LCSW
Psychology Today**

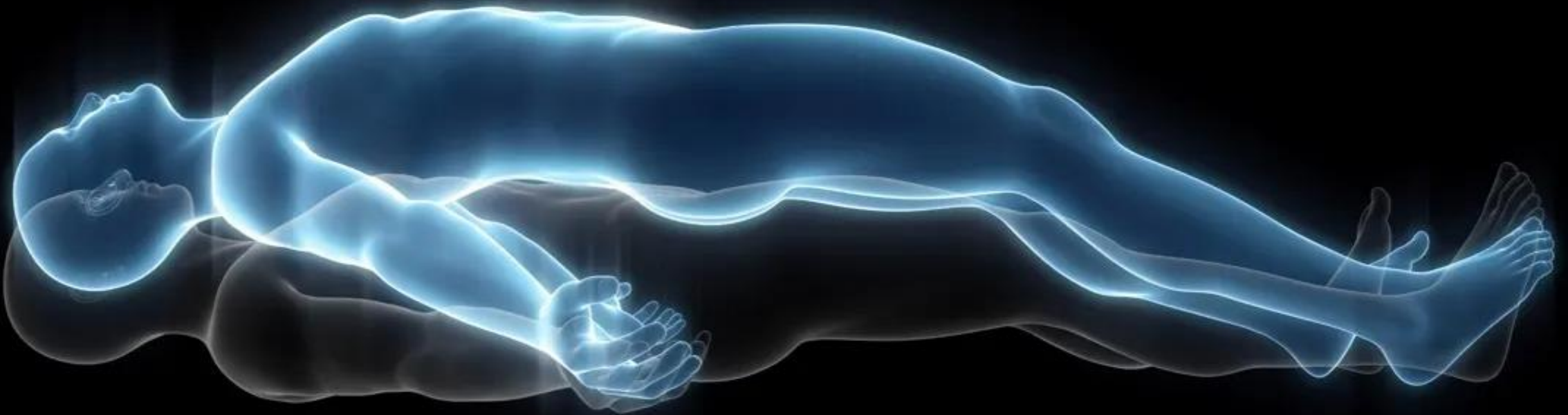
2. UNLIKE HUNGER ,SEX IS NOT JUST AN APPETITE TO BE SATIATED



1 Corinthians 6:13

Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food” —and God will destroy both one and the other.

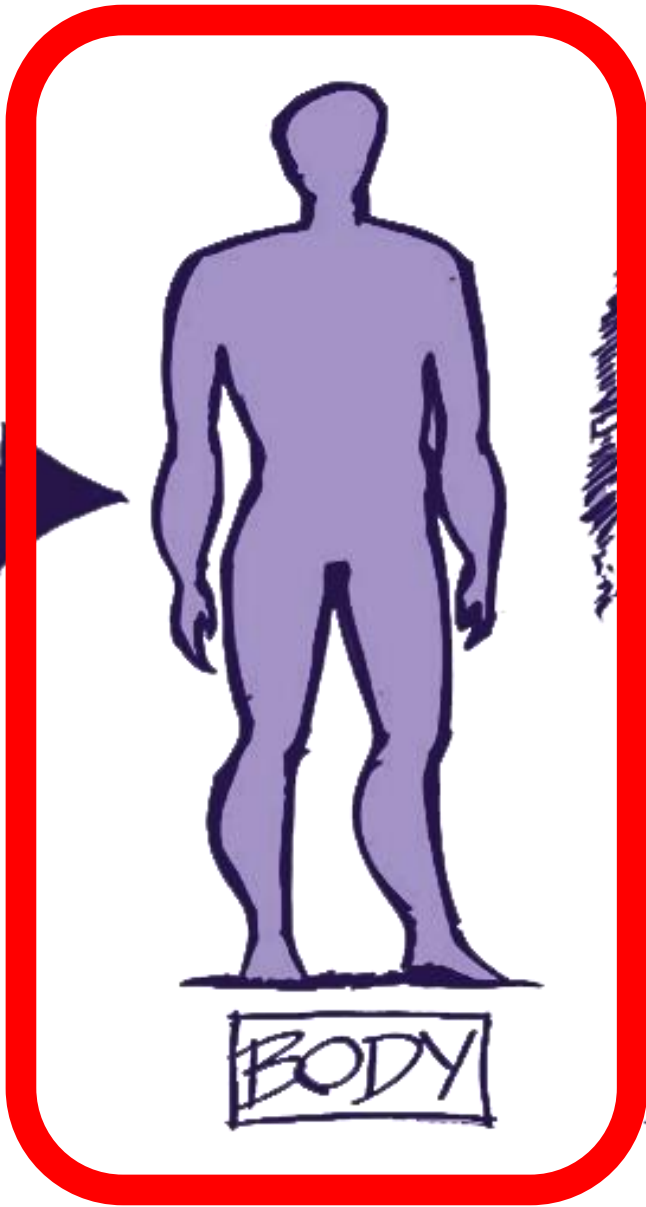
Immaterial –soul--eternal



Material –physical shell..temporal



MAN



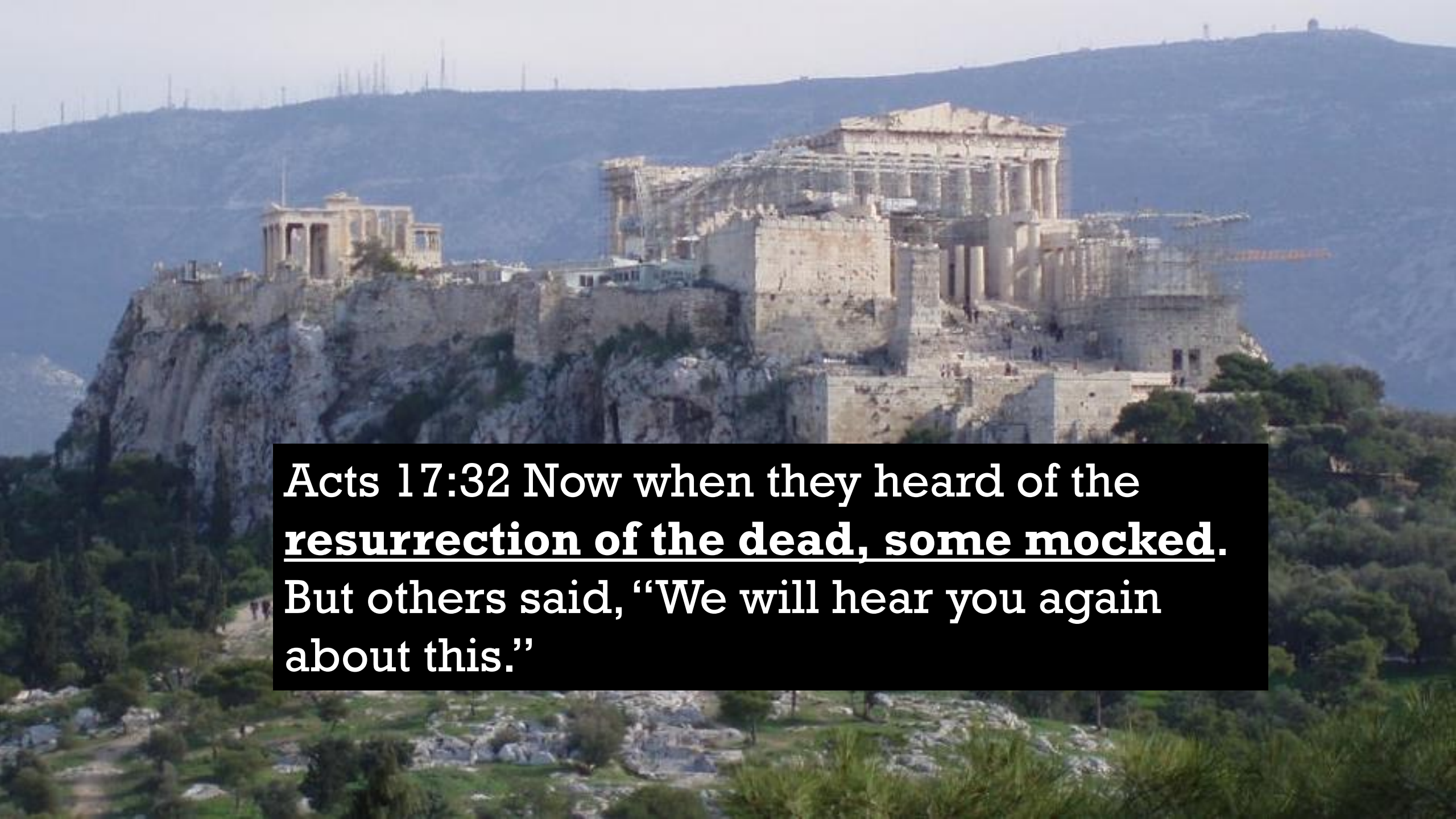
BODY



SOUL



SPIRIT



Acts 17:32 Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, “We will hear you again about this.”



emotional
involvement
commitment,
meaning,

context,
consequence
human
connection

Want the joy but not the commitment

Pure Sex

3. WHAT WE DO WITH OUR BODIES IN SEX HAS ETERNAL SIGNIFICANCE



1 Corinthians 6:13-14

The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power.

Purpose



Eternal future

STEP PARALELLISM

1 Corinthians 6:13

- Food is meant for the stomach and
- the stomach for food”
—and

- God will destroy both one (stomach)
- and the other (food).



1 Corinthians 6:13-14

- The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord,
- and the Lord for the body.

- 14 And God raised the Lord
- and will also raise us up by his power.

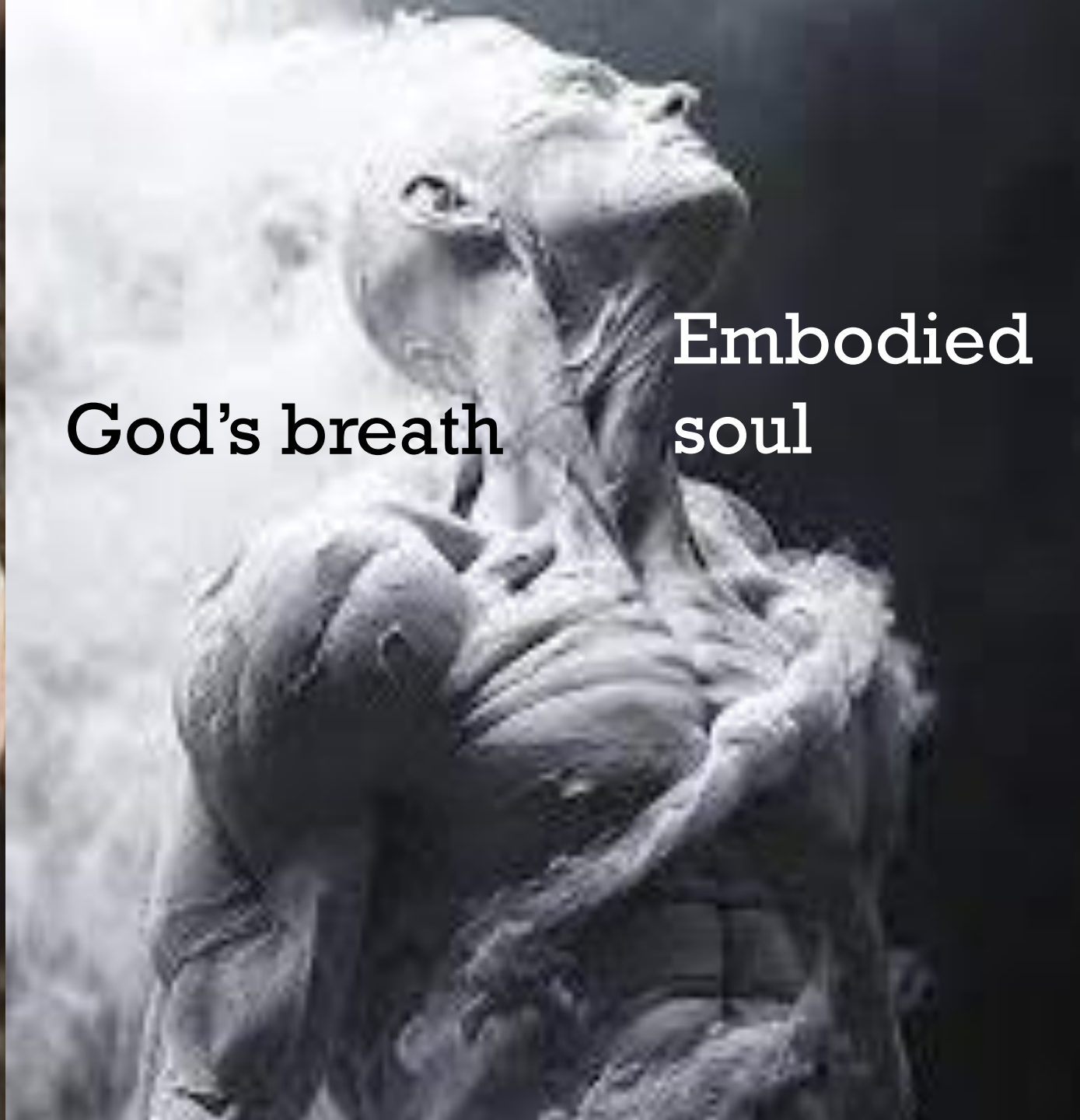
Hebrew Anthropology

Dirt



God's breath

Embodied
soul





THE PROOF

14 And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power.

4 SEX IS A UNITIVE ACT THAT EXPRESSES SPIRITUAL UNION



1 Corinthians 6:15 (ESV) Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never!

Eating Char Kway Teow does not make you one flesh with the Kway Teow Man



Appetite for food



“The two will become one flesh.”

Sexual appetite

THEY ARE NOT THE SAME THING



Wrenching or tear away by force

Shall I then take
the members of
Christ and
make them
members of a
prostitute



Hideous monstrosity

4 SEX IS A UNITIVE ACT THAT EXPRESSES SPIRITUAL UNION



1 Corinthians 6:16-17 (ESV) Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” 17 But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.



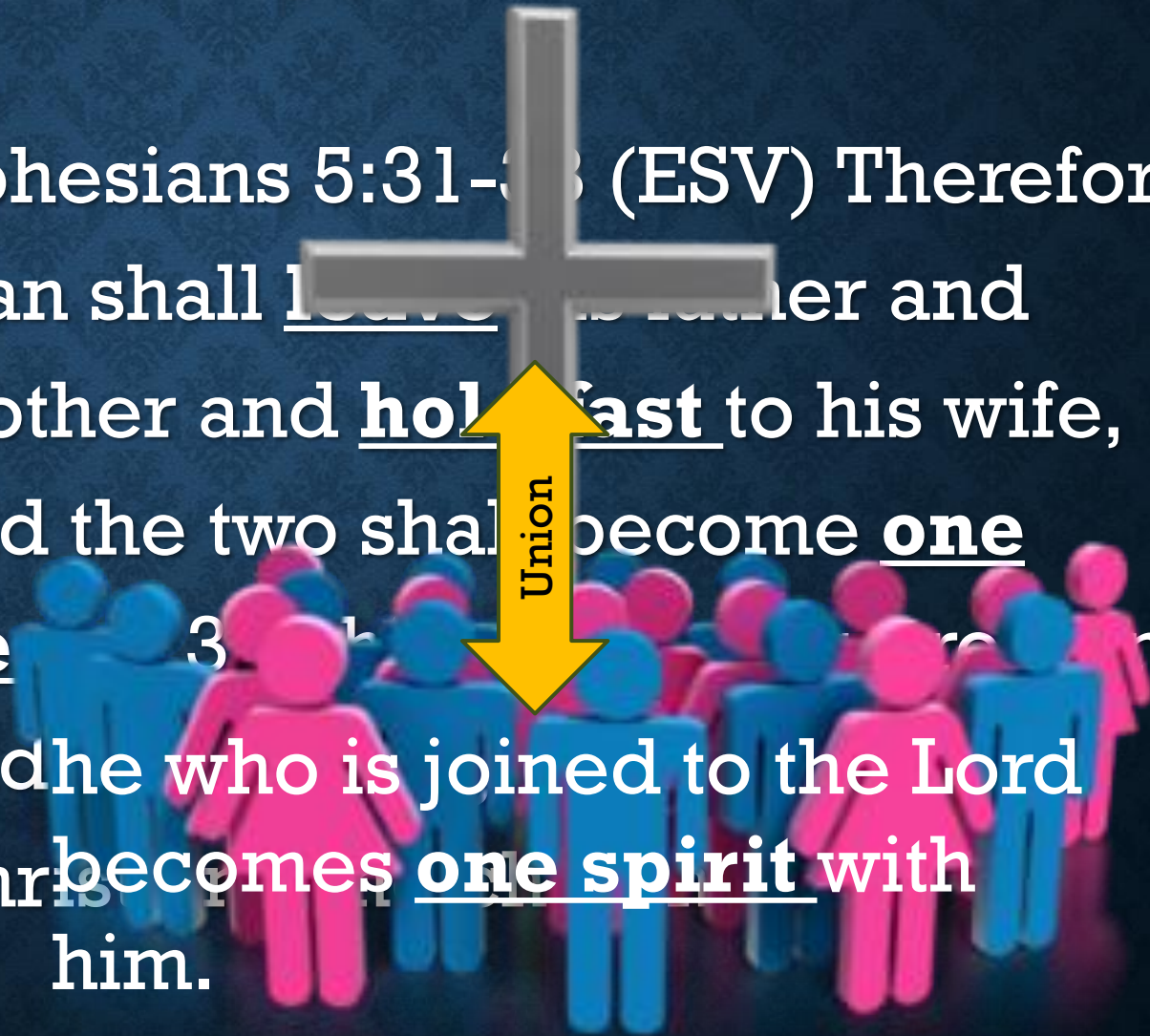
Bonding at a deep physical emotional psychological level that provides the foundation of the closest relationship two people can have that is the foundation of family



GOD'S CREATIVE –REDEMPTIVE DESIGN



Ephesians 5:31-32 (ESV) Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one fle 3 and he and she shall be one flesh, and he who is joined to the Lord Christ becomes one spirit with him.



3 SEX IS A UNITIVE ACT THAT EXPRESSES SPIRITUAL UNION



1 Corinthians 6:16-17 (ESV) Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” 17 But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.

Tool for total
commitment..send signal
to the other



Physical
expression of the
marriage
covenant..renewal



LUST

- Goal is self fulfilment
- Object is anyone who can fulfil
- Use the person
- If the person no longer fulfils need cut him off
- Devalues the person

LOVE

- Goal is love for a person
- Partner to build relationship
- Serve the person
- If the person no longer fulfils remain committed
- Values the person

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF SEX



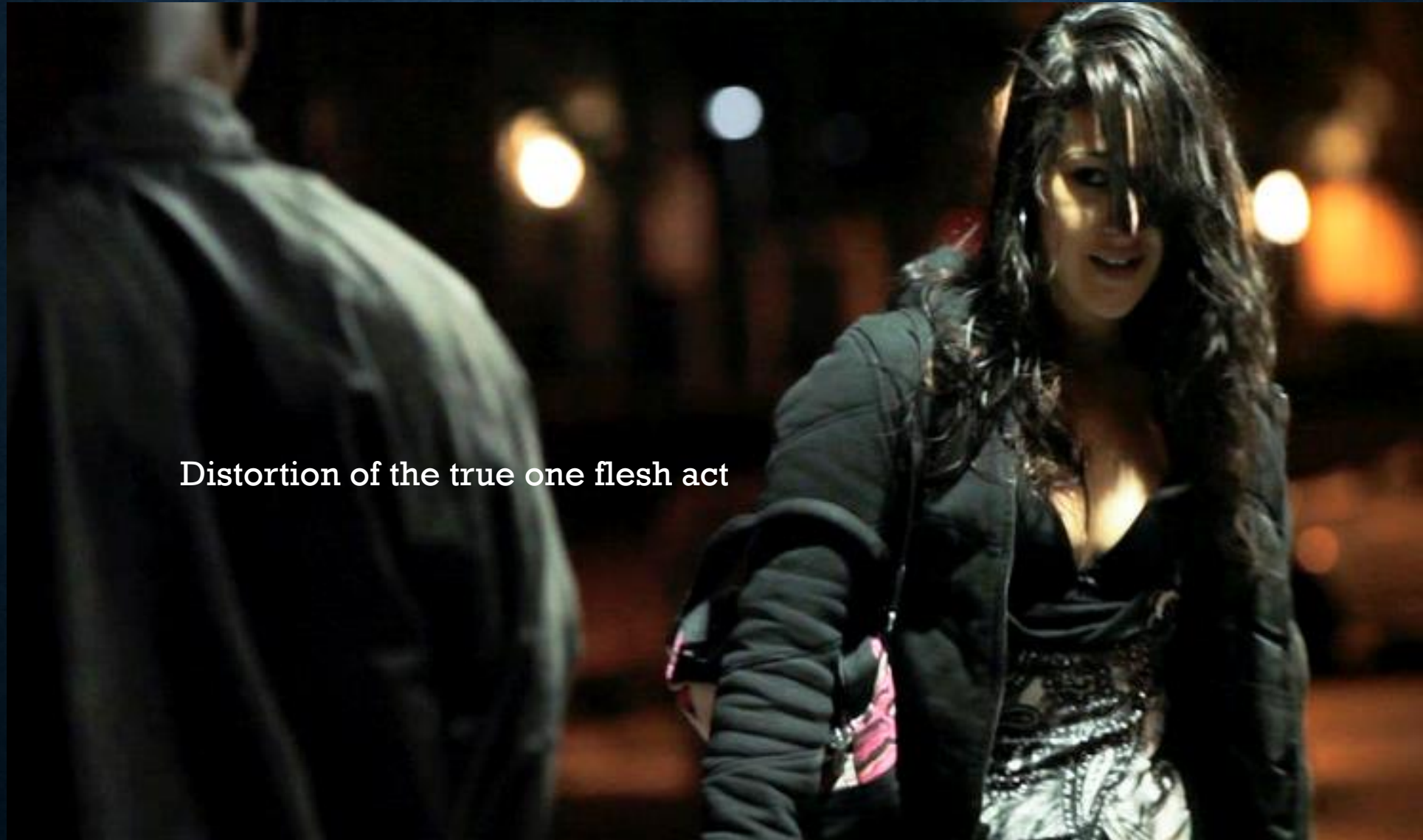
- Echo of the future consummation of our relationship with God
- In OT God is husband
- God puts Himself in us fruit is produced
...Fruit of Spirit



The value of sex

- Cannot bring your cup of coffee in the room
- Cannot touch the portrait
- Cannot spit on it
- Cannot incur exposure to harsh light
- Cannot be exposed to damp conditions
- Temperature must be perfect

HOW DOES ONE BECOME ONE FLESH WITH PROSTITUTE?



Distortion of the true one flesh act



PRETTY WOMAN



RACHEL LU

The Sexual Revolution turned itself into a twisted mirror image of the very Puritanism it was supposedly defying



RACHEL LU

“For sex to stay sexy, it has to mean something. There needs to be some objective significance that extends beyond the horny-adolescent feelings.”

Can't have the joy without the commitment
Hence sexual immorality is the total betrayal of this



5. SEXUAL SIN UNIQUELY FRUSTRATES THIS UNITIVE FUNCTION OF THE BODY

1 Corinthians 6:17-18 (ESV) But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. 18 Flee from sexual immorality.

Every other sin a person commits is outside the body,

but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

DON'T THESE INVOLVE THE BODY?



Body

Soul

**Embodied
Soul**





THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION OF THE BODY IN SEX

- v 13b The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.
- v15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? 1 Corinthians 6:16-18 (ESV) For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.”
- 17 But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. 18 Flee from sexual immorality.



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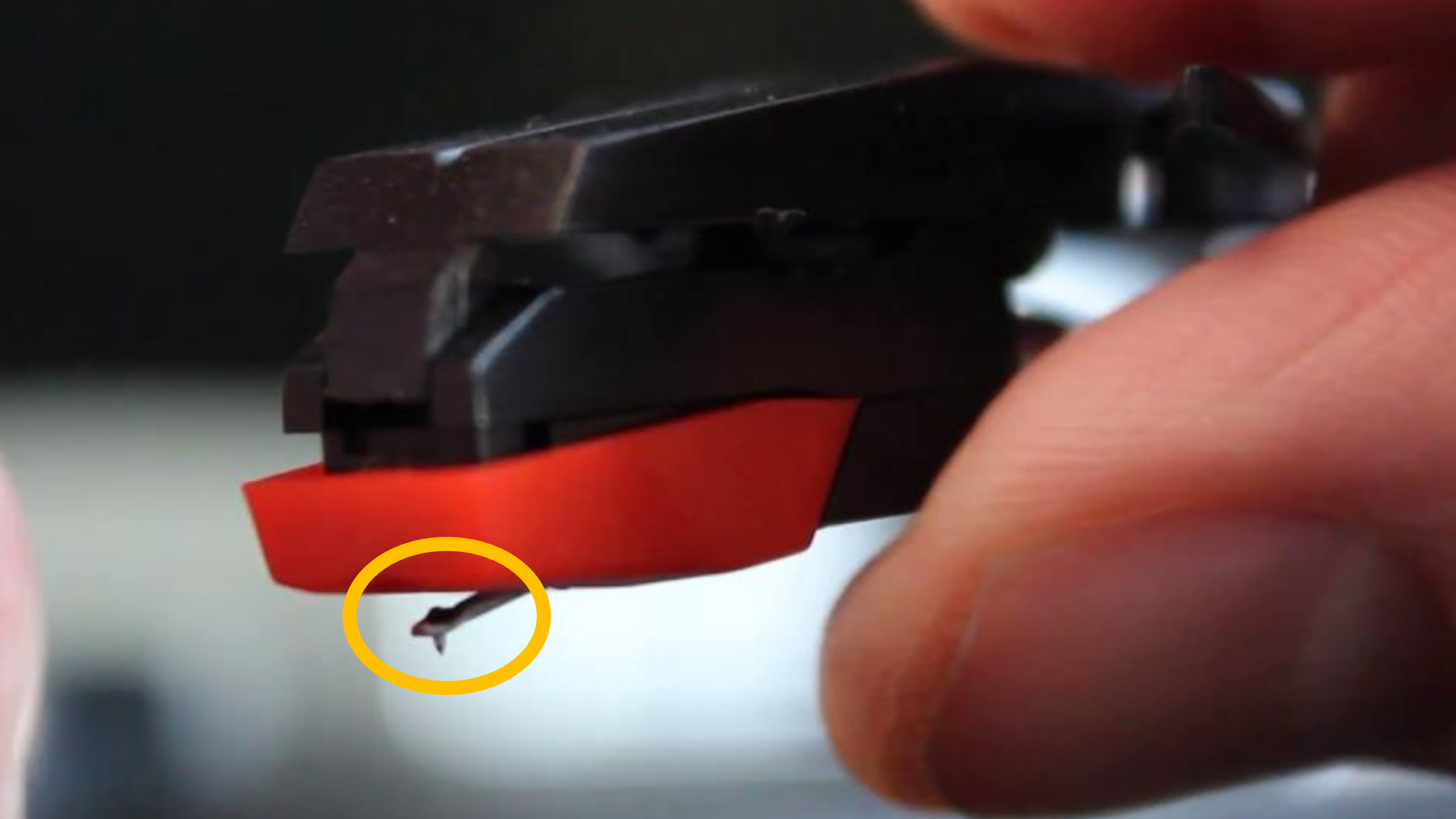
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SINS AGAINST THE BODY

Disrupts the body's most powerful and intimate way of communication in relationships (self donation) for personal transformation



NO TRUE ONENESS

Deviant sexual behaviour : Incest, Rape, Sex with animals

Adultery



Prostitution



Homosexuality



Intimacy without intention,
Communion without commitment.'

KOREAN COMFORT WOMEN



**“I was still so young,
within two months my
body was completely
destroyed,” she said.**

**“I was nothing but a
toy, as a human being
I meant nothing, that's
how it felt during the
Japanese era.”**



6. SEX IS A HOLY ACT THAT GLORIFIES GOD



1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (ESV) Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

TWO POSITIONS THREE SLOGANS



ASCETISM AND SPIRITUALITY



CHASTITY IDEAL



Original sin transmitted though sex

SEX FOR PROCREATION ONLY



MARRIAGE AND SEX



1 Corinthians 7:2 (ESV) But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband.




Does not mean everyone should get married but each married person find satisfaction with his own spouse

MUTUALITY IN CONJUGAL RIGHTS AND AUTHORITY OVER THE BODY

1 Corinthians 7:3-53 The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband.

4 For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.

5 Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control

A man and a woman are lying in bed, partially covered by white sheets. The man is leaning over the woman, looking down at her with a serious expression. The woman is looking up at him with a similar serious expression. The background is plain white.

start blaming, become
demanding, critical and
resentful

Withdrawal from him

**DESIRE DISCREPANCY
DISORDER
80% OF COUPLES**



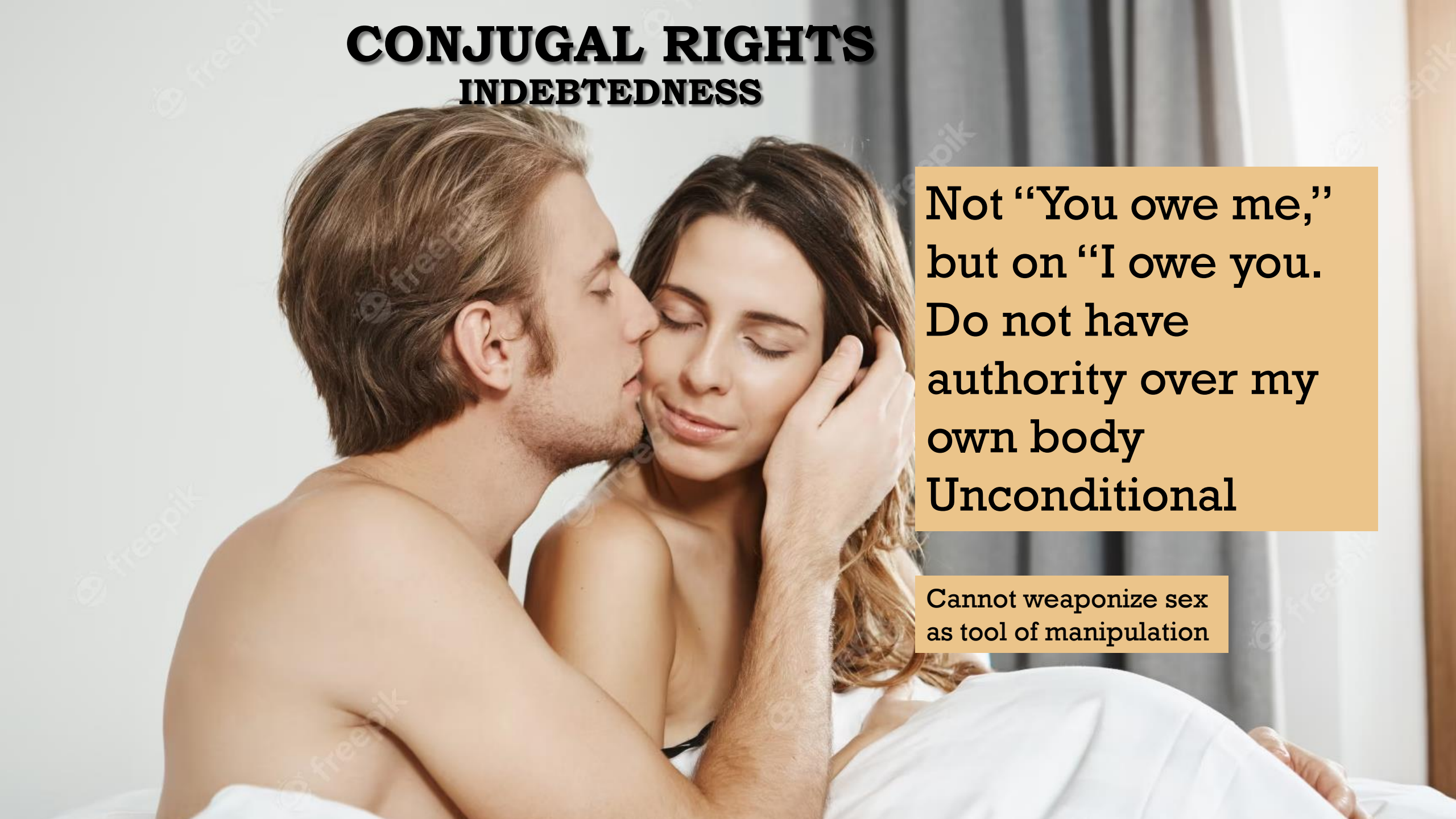
**'Denying
husbands sex is
abuse
BBC 27/7/2017**

Che Mohamad Zulkifly
Jusoh from the ruling
Barisan Nasional
coalition

CONJUGAL RIGHTS INDEBTEDNESS

**Not “You owe me,”
but on “I owe you.
Do not have
authority over my
own body
Unconditional**

**Cannot weaponize sex
as tool of manipulation**



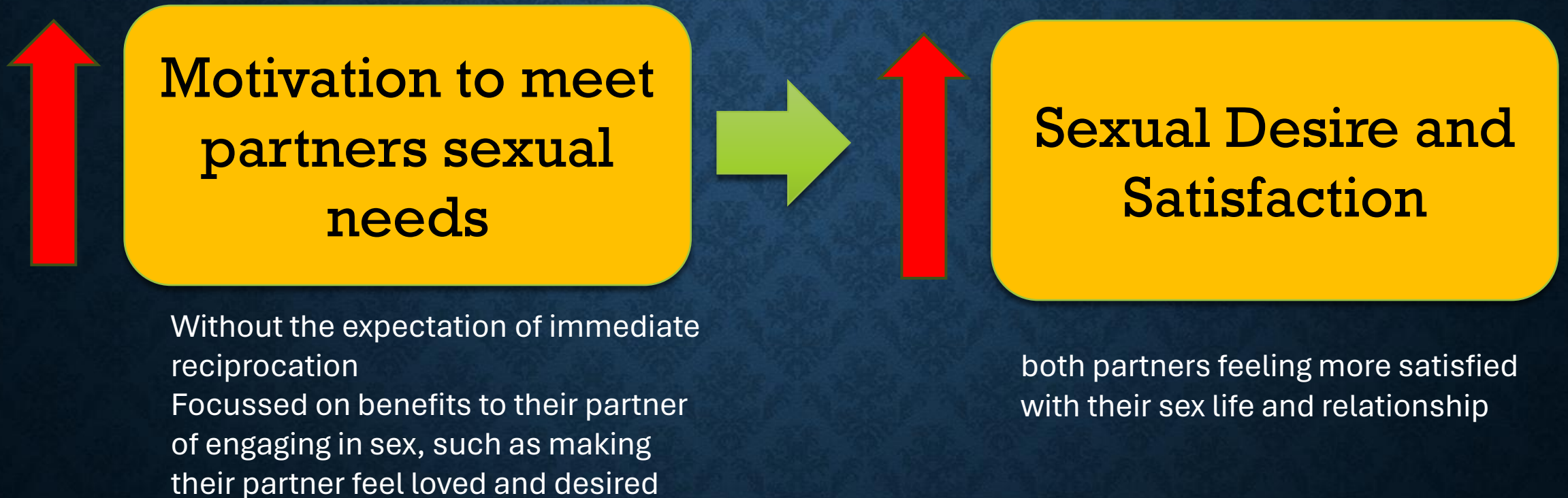


CHRISTIAN COUPLE



*Two belong to one
another in total mutuality*

CORROBORATION FROM SCIENCE



Muise, A., Impett, E. A., Kogan, A., & Desmarais, S. (2013). Keeping the spark alive: Being motivated to meet a partner's sexual needs sustains sexual desire in long-term romantic relationships. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, 4, 267-273.

THE ONLY TIME SEX STOPS



1 Corinthians 7:5 (ESV) Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

6 Now as a concession, not a command, I say this.

ABSTINENCE FROM SEX



- Thurs --- honor of His Arrest
- Friday ... crucifixion
- Saturdayvirgin Mary
- Sundayresurrection
- Monday.....souls of departed

LESSON



Importance and centrality of sex

Protection of each other from the dangers of immorality in a godless culture

The spouse cannot meet all your needs but there is one need that the only the spouse can uniquely meet

Sex is godliness





THE GOSPEL AND SEXUALITY

1 Corinthians 6:11 (ESV) And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.



SEX IS A HOLY ACT THAT GLORIFIES GOD

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (ESV) Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

PICTURES



Higher purpose
Anticipates resurrection body



Liberated at great cost

THREE DIMENSIONS OF GOSPEL WISDOM

Resurrection/forward-back.

Future glory of the body

Incarnation/upside-down

Serve each other

Atonement/inside-out

Response to Grace





Act of Idolatry

Act of Worship

Proverbs 5:18-20 (ESV) 8 Let your fountain be blessed,
and rejoice in the wife of your youth, 19 a lovely deer, a
graceful doe.

Let her breasts fill you at all times with delight; be
intoxicated always in her love.

20 Why should you be intoxicated, my son, with a
forbidden woman and embrace the bosom of an
adulteress?