

THREE ATTEMPTS AT COMPLETION
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It is easy to fool us with carob into believing we are eating chocolate. It is powder from a carob pod, naturally sweet, low in fat, containing no caffeine. Dark brown, it looks like, but lacks the bitterness of chocolate. It is sweeter than chocolate with fewer calories, more carbohydrates, but less fat. If we had not tasted chocolate recently, carob would fool us. If we then ate Hershey's chocolate, we would immediately know the carob an imitation. But very fine chocolate would lead us to throw rocks at Hershey's. Three levels of chocolate reality, three attempts to satisfy craving..

A young man once told me that the reason he used crack cocaine was for the rush. It lasted 3-5 minutes before wearing off, but produced a change in personality that lasted for hours. What he said was terribly significant; I just missed it the first time around. Let me describe crack again, but combine it with a depressant to bring the user back down. "Life is stressing me out and I want to escape from it. I use a little crack cocaine for the buzz. The result is intense pleasure for about 3-5 minutes. The resulting personality change is a little unnerving, but worth it for the buzz. Afterwards, I take a depressant. When it hits, I am at peace. I know I will still have to deal with my problems, but they can wait a while. Right now, I want to enjoy feeling so completely relaxed and stress free." Sound about right?

Let me rephrase that again but this time, separate it from the drug experience. "Life is stressing me out. I need to escape it for a while. I begin an activity that builds up tension slowly. Then it culminates in an intense burst of pleasure lasting for a few minutes. Afterwards, I feel incredibly relaxed and at peace. I also experience a behavior change that lasts for hours. I know I will still have to deal with my problems, but they can wait a while. Right now, I want to enjoy feeling so completely stress free." I just described sex. Could such similarity be coincidence? Let's talk about sex for a minute, but from a Biblical perspective, since that is a guaranteed source of Truth.

To find out the purpose of sex, we start in the **second chapter of Genesis**, the Book of Beginnings. God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone: I will make him a help meet for him" Everything God had made had been good. How did He know that it was not good for man to be alone? Was He speaking from experience? Why did He make man different from any of the animals in the first place? Verse twenty assures us Adam could not find a help "meet" or proper for himself among the animals. Another translation of "help meet" is "completer." No animal could complete Adam. He had been created in likeness of God. There could be no joining between him and them. There was no void in existence the other had the capability to fill. So God puts Adam to sleep, takes a rib, from him, and uses it to fashion a companion for him, a woman. Man is now missing a part that only woman can complete. They will forever fit together like a puzzle. Adam recognizes the need to be joined together with Eve to be complete again. "she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they shall be one flesh." Adam "knows" Eve, she conceives, and Cain is born. Because one is part of the other, man and woman will not be complete until joined together again. How are they actually joined?

There is transference of the soul which seems to occur during sex. For a while, the man becomes gentler, more compassionate, more feminine till his basic nature reasserts itself. The woman becomes bolder, more assertive, more masculine till her basic nature reasserts itself. Eventually two become more and more alike till they act alike, say the same things, complete one another's thoughts, and even grow to look somewhat alike. They become one person or soul with two bodies, complete in one another. Sometimes, when one long time partner dies, the other quickly follows. Promiscuity carries more danger than STDs. What transfers during sex at the level of the soul can damn us forever.

God knew loneliness was not good. As with Adam, something called the "breath of life" left God, a Spirit, and entered into man to make Adam a spirit filled companion for God. Did it leave God incomplete? Throughout scripture, it is clear God wants an eternal companion, called a "bride." Look at this scene from eternity in **Matthew 7:23**, "then will I profess to them, I never **knew** you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." That word "know" is the same as when Adam "knew" his wife – just before she conceived. What is described is an intimate relationship, where God seeks some kind of completion in us. We continually seek

to fill a spiritual emptiness in ourselves. I would venture no true happiness or sense of completion can be found apart from becoming one with God.

Can we exchange “spirit” with God? One more time, follow with me. “Life is stressing me out. I need to escape it. I begin earnestly touching the presence of God in prayer. This culminates in an intense burst of pleasure that lasts for a few minutes. Afterwards, I feel incredibly relaxed and at peace. I also experience a behavior change that lasts for hours. I know I will still have to deal with my problems, but they can wait a while. Right now, I want to enjoy feeling so completely stress free.” I just described receiving the Holy Ghost, allowing God to enter into me and possess me. For a while, till my basic nature reasserts itself, I am more like God. I do not believe this similarity is any coincidence either.

I believe like the three levels of chocolate described, there are three levels at which we seek completion. At the supreme level, we make love to God and experience a transfer of Spirit to complete us. Below this, we have sex, given to enjoy on Earth as a taste of better things to come. Here, soul transfers to complete us. To fool us, we have drugs. With this experience, nothing transfers at all. When the rush subsides, it just leaves us alone and empty, and it is not good to be alone. **Psalms 34:8** urges, “taste and see that the LORD is good.”

If we ever taste of God, we would throw rocks at drugs.