

# Proverbs 6:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life.

## Analysis

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A prostitute reduces a man to a loaf of bread, while an adulteress preys on precious life. The Hebrew imagery of becoming 'a loaf of bread' ('kikkar lechem') indicates reduction to mere object or commodity - total degradation. The adulteress 'hunts' ('tsu wd') precious life like predator pursuing prey. Sexual sin commodifies persons and destroys life. What God designed for mutual blessing becomes mutual exploitation and destruction.

## Historical Context

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Ancient prostitution involved both economic transaction and cultic practice (temple prostitution). Both degraded human dignity - persons became commodities. Prophets consistently condemned Israel's spiritual prostitution (idolatry) using marital metaphor. Hosea's marriage to Gomer illustrated this vividly. Sexual sin's degradation mirrors spiritual adultery's devastation.

## Related Passages

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**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does pornography reduce persons to commodities, and how does this parallel prostitution's degradation?
2. What 'precious life' is being hunted/destroyed by sexual temptation you're entertaining?
3. How does understanding persons as image-bearers create moral resistance to sexual exploitation?

## Interlinear Text

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כִּי	בְעֵד	וְאִשָּׁת	זוֹנָה	עַד
H3588	For by means of	and the adulteress	a whorish	H5704
	H1157	H802	H2181	
	כִּפֹּר	לֶחֶם	וְאִשָּׁת	אִישׁ
	a man is brought to a piece	of bread	and the adulteress	H376
	H3603	H3899	H802	life
				H5315
	יִקְרָה	תִּצּוֹד:		
	for the precious	will hunt		
	H3368	H6679		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 29:3** (Parallel theme): Whoso loveth wisdom rejoiceth his father: but he that keepeth company with harlots spendeth his substance.

**Proverbs 5:10** (Parallel theme): Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger;

**Luke 15:30** (Parallel theme): But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.

**1 Samuel 2:36** (Parallel theme): And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left in thine house shall come and crouch to him for a piece of silver and a morsel

of bread, and shall say, Put me, I pray thee, into one of the priests' offices, that I may eat a piece of bread.

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