

Twilight

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Vampires are very popular and the book series Twilight along with films based on the books are selling well to millions: especially well to young women. It is the forbidden fruit. Satan told Eve that eating this fruit would make her as God; that is, she would become a goddess. Now a fantasy 17-year-old boy Edward Cullen casts his romantic spell over swooning girls who wish their partners could be as enchanting as he. Many are hopelessly addicted. What is going on?

Stephanie Meyer has created a character to appeal to the fleshly desire of young women that drags them down to certain frustration even while appearing to portray a chaste unconditional love and good versus evil: fantasy men in a fantasy world. It is emotional porn: 1. a desire to use people as self-gratification machines. and 2. a preference for man-made reality and man-made people over the real thing. This is as strong a temptation for women as for men. It is choosing a fantasy human to take the place of a God-created human.

Why can't a man be more like ... a woman? Romantic heroes undergo a little "airbrushed" gender-blurring to make them more romantically satisfying: more delicately-featured, more sensitive, more domestic, better behaved, more in tune with the feminine feelings.

In God's world, the woman was created for the man: *"For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man."* (1 Corinthians 11:8-9) In the wonderful world of romance novels, the man is usually created as an accessory to the woman. The illusion is that this is better than life, real life. Don't like reality? Escape to a different reality! You don't need cocaine. Just use your imagination and escape to a world without sin, guilt, or the need to be grown up and accept the harsh realities of God's world marred by sin and rebellion.

Maybe we need to ask ourselves why a world apart from God's character, God's laws, and God's created order would be a world a Christian would desire to live in? Is God's creation a disease that needs the medicine of escapism? What we really need to do is not to run from God but run to God. God gives us a dose of reality along with a strong hope that something real and really better is possible both in this life and in the one to come. Jesus teaches us that creation does not have me as the center but God. Glorifying God is the real reason that we are here.