

PD10 - Interpretations of PD 10 Discussion

Post by "Don" of January 18, 2021 at 5:00 PM

[Quote from Elayne](#)

Nowhere does Epicurus say a person should refuse to make a one-time decision for permanent complete pleasure on grounds that it's better to have less pleasure along with ongoing choices! That hypothetical is not taken up in [PD10](#).

I'm trying not to use PD 10 anymore, that's why I didn't reference it in the response using the Canon.

[Quote from Elayne](#)

In context of the whole philosophy, choice and avoidance are used to obtain pleasure. Choice and avoidance are not stand-alone goods but skills in service of the goal. So there would be no reason to forgo pleasure and retain choice-- IF one were certain of the result.

Right. I'm agreeing with that. Choice and avoidance are instrumental to pleasure, like virtue, like practical wisdom, like acting justly. We don't disagree about that. I'm not sure where you're getting that from my response. But how do we make our choices and rejections? From our senses, our reactions of pleasure and pain, and our prolepses. If we don't have access to them, we can't make choices, etc.

[Quote from Elayne](#)

I can make one long time choice, such as I did when I purchased my condo, for pleasure. Of course, I could sell it...

Then that analogy is not not a one-time, one-and-done choice, by definition. I'm seeing the bliss pill being a point of no return. To use your analogy, taking the bliss pill would be like purchasing your condo then being locked inside forever.

[Quote from Elayne](#)

Epicurus is not focused on creating the maximum number of choices over the longest duration.

Of course not! That's absurd, and that's not what I'm saying. What Epicurus is focused on is telling us to use the Canon to make prudent decisions to make sure we live the most pleasure-

filled life possible. If we cut ourselves off from the Canon, we have no hope of moving to the fullness of pleasure in our lives.