

All Pleasure Is Desirable, Because It Is Pleasing To Us, But Is All Pleasure *Equally* Desirable?

Post by "Cassius" of May 12, 2018 at 6:33 AM

"That is why that I disagree that all pleasures must be sought." Yes as you state we are together on that. All pleasure is desirable by definition, but we certainly should not pursue those pleasures which will bring us pain that outweighs the reward.

I think what we are striving toward here is precision and clarification of terminology so that we avoid as much confusion as possible.

Eternal life, for example, is not possible for us, so to yearn after it brings pain that I cannot see to be worthwhile, and so we work to avoid that pain by study of nature and understanding of our natural limits.

On the other hand, life is desirable, so we work to protect and enjoy our lives to the extent possible too.

Both are at the same time true, and should be obvious, yet because of centuries of confusion and false religion and nihilism they are not obvious to many people. And those who are confused can turn out to be enemies and harm us, or simply be lost to us as friends who could otherwise have enhanced our happiness and theirs too.

So it seems to me much of the benefit and purpose of Epicurus' work was to move in that direction and present a framework which people can understand and use productively. And one of the best ways we can do that is to talk among each other, sharpen our own presentations, and then enhance our own lives by extending that message to others (thus our recent exchange on graphic memes, blogging, etc.)

That is one aspect of the usefulness of a forum like this - to serve as sort of a training camp where people can get basic ideas arranged in a proper foundation before they undertake their own "outreach" in their own local geographic area or circle of activity.