

Toward A Better Understanding of Epicurean Justice And Injustice (With Examples of "Just" and "Unjust")

Post by "Don" of April 11, 2021 at 1:02 PM

[Matt](#) Your comments highlight exactly the points I'm trying to wrap my brain around. It seems to me that Epicurus is making the distinction you're looking at but taking the opposite tack:

He seems to consistently use βλάπτειν (blaptein) to convey "harm" but that seems to be not wilfully <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?do...8:entry=bla/ptw>

That word appears to be the opposite of ἀδικέω literally "not act unjustly" or to do wrong <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l...ptw&i=1#lexicon>

Epicurus seems to be trying to take the motivation out of it from my reading. That's why he has to define "justice" as "not doing harm and not being harmed" regardless of the motivation of the actor.

Still struggling... Open to ideas!