

# An Epicurean Understanding of Pleasure

Post by "Don" of October 8, 2021 at 12:03 AM

After having read the above exchange, I don't know whether we're farther along or not. I'm going to summarize my thoughts. Take from this what you will.

Pleasure can be experienced from ... Let's say, drinking wine.

Some people desire the pleasure of drinking wine. This is a natural but unnecessary desire. One could satisfy one's thirst simply by drinking water. Maybe this person wants to vary their pleasure. The person who desires the pleasure experienced by drinking wine weighs the pain in procuring the wine (minimal), any resulting pain (enjoy in moderation, minimal pain), commits to not acting foolish (maintain reputation, no pain). The desire to experience the pleasure of intoxicating beverages in this context can be experienced with minimal pain. Go ahead.

Another person who struggles with alcoholism weighs the desire for the pleasure of intoxicating beverages much differently.

The \*pleasure\* of drinking wine stays the same. Two people drinking wine will experience pleasure. They may decide to pursue their desires for wine drinking for very different reasons.

The desire to experience the pleasure of drinking wine is completely contextual and subjective.

The decision to indulge the desire to experience this specific pleasure is completely personal, subjective, and contextual.

There is no consideration necessary of the duration, intensity, etc. of the specific \*pleasure\* itself of drinking wine. What will be the result of this desire if it is fulfilled? If not? The decision to pursue one's desire to experience the pleasure derived from drinking wine is completely contingent on personal factors and subjective feelings of what pain and pleasure will result from whether this desire is fulfilled or not.