

# Episode Ninety-Three: Torquatus Leads Us Forward Into Conflict Over Epicurean Ethics

Post by “Cassius” of October 29, 2021 at 7:38 PM

[Quote from Godfrey](#)

The pleasures are not identical, and that’s where so much confusion can be sown by devious minds 😊

Yes, I agree Godfrey, but I would say that this is one of those areas where once we identify an absurdity (the assertion that all pleasures are identical in every respect) we immediately reject it as having possibly been Epicurus' position and we immediately go elsewhere looking for a proper understanding of his assertions. And I do think that we can find a logical explanation for what Epicurus seems to be saying if we compare what he is saying to Plato in [Philebus](#) on a conceptual level.

However I am not yet with you on the relationship of pleasure and desire.

*Cassius, I'm suggesting that this is where the opponents won the war, in focusing on ranking pleasures instead of desires."*

I do think that pleasures have to be ranked so that we can intelligently choose between them. I guess I would say much the same thing about "desires." Ranking "pleasures" seems to make more sense to me because that is the method by which I would rank my "desires" if I even thought in terms of ranking desires. My desires flow directly from my evaluation of the possible pleasures and pain, so I am not sure I see the path forward you are suggesting.