

"most useless observation ever made by an ancient Greek philosopher"

Post by "Kalosyni" of June 10, 2022 at 8:16 AM

Thanks Don for sharing the article, simple as it is.

I think his negative opening comment on Epicurus was because he might think that the fear of death will help motivate someone to enjoy the present moment.

I think everyone is at their own level of dealing with time and the idea of death, depending on how much they have contemplated their own mortality. Unlike the author of the article, I personally think that no matter how old one is, that some amount of planning is a good thing. But of course if one is retired, then one will plan different types of activities compared to if one is still employed. Also, it does take some planning in order to organize social events, so hopefully we all keep that up until the day we die. I think some amount of planning also can help make life more enjoyable, but also not being too attached to any one specific outcome (being able to go with the flow as things unfold).

This was a fun quote, as I myself do tend to live in the future:

Quote

The result is what's been called the "when-I-finally" mindset: the sense that real fulfilment, or even real life itself, hasn't quite arrived yet, so that present experience is merely something to get through, en route to something better. The person stuck in such a mindset, wrote [John Maynard Keynes](#), "does not love his cat, but his cat's kittens; nor, in truth, the kittens, but only the kittens' kittens, and so on forward for ever to the end of cat-dom".