

# Do Pigs Value Katastematic Pleasure? ( Summer 2022 K / K Discussion)

Post by "Cassius" of July 1, 2022 at 1:09 PM

All of which leads to this kind of statement at wikipedia: that Epicurus "idiosyncratically defined pleasure as absenced of suffering and that the goal of life is not "pleasure" but "atrasia meaning untroubledness.....' No real statement of PLEASURE as the goal either here or in the opening paragraphs of the wikipedia article on epicurus himself.

## Ethics [\[ edit \]](#)

Epicurus was a [hedonist](#), meaning he taught that what is pleasurable is morally good and what is painful is morally evil.<sup>[65][66][67][7]</sup> He idiosyncratically defined "pleasure" as the absence of suffering<sup>[66][7]</sup> and taught that all humans should seek to attain the state of *ataraxia*, meaning "untroubledness", a state in which the person is completely free from all pain or suffering.<sup>[68][69][70]</sup> He argued that most of the suffering which human beings experience is caused by the irrational fears of death, [divine retribution](#), and punishment in the afterlife.<sup>[63][64]</sup> In his *Letter to Menoeceus*, Epicurus explains that people seek wealth and power on account of these fears, believing that having more money, prestige, or political clout will save them from death.<sup>[63][64]</sup> He, however, maintains that death is the end of existence, that the terrifying stories of punishment in the afterlife are ridiculous superstitions, and that death is therefore nothing to be feared.<sup>[63][64][71]</sup> He writes in his *Letter to Menoeceus*: "Accustom thyself to believe that death is nothing to us, for good and evil imply sentience, and death is the privation of all sentience;... Death, therefore, the most awful of evils, is nothing to us, seeing that, when we are, death is not come, and, when death is come, we are not."<sup>[72]</sup> From this doctrine arose the Epicurean epitaph: *Non fui, fui, non-sum, non-curo* ("I was not; I was; I am not; I do not care"), which is inscribed on the gravestones of his followers and seen on many ancient gravestones of the [Roman Empire](#). This quotation is often used today at [humanist](#) funerals.<sup>[73]</sup>

Plus THIS which identifies katastematic pleasures "as the focal ones to Epicurus."

# Katastematic pleasure

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from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

In Epicurean philosophy, **katastematic pleasure** is pleasure felt when being in a state of freedom from need or want, as opposed to kinetic pleasure, which is felt while performing a gratifying activity. <sup>[1][2]</sup> Absence of pain, *aponia*, and lack of disturbance of mind, *ataraxia*, are two of the katastematic pleasures and often seen as the focal ones to Epicurus. <sup>[3][4]</sup>

## References [edit]

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- <sup>1</sup> <sup>^</sup> Konstan, David, "Epicurus", The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (Fall 2013 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), <http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2013/entries/epicurus/>
- <sup>2</sup> <sup>^</sup> J. C. B. Gosling and C. C. W. Taylor. *Katastematic and Kinetic Pleasures*, in *The Greeks On Pleasure*. Eds. J. C. B. Gosling and C. C. W. Taylor. Clarendon Press, 1982
- <sup>3</sup> <sup>^</sup> Cicero, *De Fin* i 37-38
- <sup>4</sup> <sup>^</sup> Splawn, Clay (2002). "Updating Epicurus's Concept of *Katastematic Pleasure*". *Journal of Value Inquiry*. **36** (4): 473. doi:10.1023/A:1021997823870