

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

Post by "Don" of July 14, 2022 at 11:09 PM

Post

[RE: Do Pigs Value Katastematic Pleasure? \(Summer 2022 K / K Discussion\)](#)

I wanted to address the title of Metrodorus's book that is cited by Clement of Alexandria.

The title in Greek is:

Περι του μειζονα ειναι την παρ' ημας αιτιαν προς ευδαιμονιαν της εκ των πραγματων

The "New Advent" English translation is:

On the Source of Happiness in Ourselves being greater than that which arises from Objects

I don't entirely agree with the translation choices made there, but they'll do well enough.

What I want to do is look at several key words that impact our current discussion on...



Don

July 4, 2022 at 4:46 PM

In light of Metrodorus's book title and reference, I found VS45 very interesting:

VS45 The study of what is natural produces not braggarts nor windbags nor those who show off the culture that most people fight about, but those who are fearless and self-reliant and who value their own good qualities rather than the good things that have come to them from external circumstances.

ού κομπούς ούδὲ φωνῆς ἐργαστικὸς ούδὲ τὴν περιμάχητον παρὰ τοῖς πολλοῖς παιδείαν ἐνδεικνυμένους φυσιολογία παρασκευάζει, ἀλλὰ σοβαροῦς καὶ αὐτάρκεις καὶ ἐπὶ τοῖς ἰδίους ἀγαθοῖς, οὐκ ἐπὶ τοῖς τῶν πραγμάτων μέγα φρονοῦντες.

Note that what Saint-Andre translates as "external circumstances" is πραγμάτων - the exact same word Metrodorus uses in his book title: Περι του μειζονα ειναι την παρ' ημας αιτιαν προς ευδαιμονιαν της εκ των πραγματων

There's also the μειζονα and μέγα in the two passages.

I think VS45 and the title of Metrodorus's book title are saying the same thing: we can rely more on the pleasure that arises from within us than we can on the pleasures that arise from external circumstances.

In my view: The pleasure from internal sources is *katastematic* ; the pleasure from external activities and circumstances is *kinetic* (arising from *πραγμάτων*).