

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

Post by "Cassius" of July 16, 2022 at 2:06 PM



Quote from Cassius

I see no evidence in the core Epicurean texts that the Epicureans got around to mentioning the word "katastematic" except at best in rare instances.

Sure, rare, but:



Quote

The words of Epicurus in his work *On Choice* are : "Peace of mind and freedom from pain are pleasures which imply a state of rest ; joy and delight are seen to consist in motion and activity."

ὁ δ' Ἐπίκουρος ἐν τῷ Περὶ αἰρέσεων οὕτω λέγει: "ἡ μὲν γὰρ ἀταραξία καὶ ἀπονία καταστηματικαὶ εἰσιν ἡδοναί: ἡ δὲ χαρὰ καὶ ἡ εὐφροσύνη κατὰ κίνησιν ἐνεργεῖα βλέπονται."

Please correct me if I am wrong, but in addition to being "rare" this is a statement by Diogenes Laertius, which we may presume to be a quote, but of which we don't for sure have an original sentence by Epicurus, or surrounding context.

That observation (absence of a clear original where we see Epicurus making the point in full context) is a key aspect of the criticism of [Nikolsky/Gosling/Taylor](#) in pointing out that it is Diogenese Laertius and Cicero who bring this issue to our attention, not its prominence in original works of Epicurus or core Epicureans.

So we if are categorizing the main objections, they include, not necessarily in this order:

- Rare at best.

- Not featured as important in clear writings by core Epicureans

....and then combined with....

- All of the textual consistency issues that arise from any implication that Epicurus valued "katastematic" more (or even equal to) than "kinetic" pleasure.