

Perspectives On "Proving" That Pleasure is "The Good"

Post by "Don" of December 21, 2022 at 5:54 PM

Lucretius implies pleasure is the "supreme good" bonum summum, too:

[Lucretius, De Rerum Natura, BOOK VI, line 1](#)

So he,

The master, then by his truth-speaking words,
Purged the breasts of men, and set the bounds

Of lust and terror, and exhibited

The supreme good whither we all endeavour,

And showed the path whereby we might arrive

Thereunto by a little cross-cut straight,

And what of ills in all affairs of mortals

Upsprang and flitted deviously about

(Whether by chance or force), since nature thus

Had destined; and from out what gates a man

Should sally to each combat.

...veridicis igitur purgavit pectora dictis

et finem statuit cuppedinis atque timoris

exposuitque bonum summum, quo tendimus omnes,

quid foret, atque viam monstravit, tramite parvo

qua possemus ad id recto contendere cursu,

quidve mali foret in rebus mortalibus passim,

quod fieret naturali varieque volaret

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seu casu seu vi, quod sic natura parasset,
et quibus e portis occurri cuique deceret,

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