

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

Post by "Todd" of December 24, 2022 at 11:29 AM

[Quote from Don](#)

So, here's my (current) thinking:

The Good/ The End/ Telos / Summum bonum for Epicureans is pleasure.

I think this is correct, i.e., makes the most coherent argument.

There are a limited number of candidates in answer to "What is The Good?" Other philosophies have different choices, but, to Epicureans, all other candidates are means to the end of pleasure.

Those are all in one category.

Pleasure is then the criteria (the yardstick, the canon) by which we determine if something is to be considered a good thing or a bad thing from a human perspective.

However, we use reason, with the criteria in 5, to determine what good things are conducive to living pleasurably.

Reserving the right to extend and revise my remarks 😊

Does this list move us closer together, Todd ?

Display More

Not just closer together, but I would say we are in nearly perfect agreement there.

Your # 5 has really been my main point. But then IMO, it follows from there that you can't claim that the yardstick is also one of the things being measured (goods). Maybe that is just me being pedantic.

I've also been trying to avoid The Good, etc. because I don't think that is even an Epicurean concept. I think we've been tricked by idealists into arguing about those things on their terms.