

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

Post by "Cassius" of December 24, 2022 at 1:03 PM

[Quote from Don](#)

Which may be why some later Epicureans felt it necessary to demonstrate why those replacements were corruptions using formal arguments.

Yes, but not because Epicurus was wrong to the extent he did not spend all his time working on formal arguments, but because different people in different schools and societies have been indoctrinated in different perspectives, and those who have been convinced to think that abstract logical proofs are the ultimate standard are helped by placing things in logical terms. The Stoics and their allies had been blabbering for 200 more years by the time of Cicero, and now they have had an additional 2000 years to continue on the same path, especially after they merged with Judeo-Christianity.

I think Epicurus would say that you can draw those tickmarks on the yardstick using whatever language or number system or scheme of categorization you care to use, but in the end you call a spade a spade and this is the main thing people need to know: the yardstick handed to us by nature for how to live is understandable by everyone and known to them as feeling/pleasure/pain.