

# Confidence in Katastematic Pleasure

Post by "Don" of February 12, 2023 at 10:09 AM

As literal as possible:

ὁ τῆς φύσεως πλοῦτος "The wealth of nature..."

καὶ ὤριστα\* καὶ εὐπόριστός ἐστιν, "is the best and easily procured..."

ὁ δὲ τῶν κενῶν δοξῶν (kenōn doxōn "empty beliefs/principles/doctrines") εἰς ἄπειρον ἐκίπτει.  
"But that of empty opinions runs onto infinity."

\*πλοῦτος ploutos. Ex., plutocracy. Wealth, riches.

\*\*ὤριστα is, according to LSJ, a contraction of ὁ ἄριστος (o aristos) from which we get aristocracy. So, it literally means "best, finest; best in its kind, and so in all sorts of relations, serving as Sup. of ἀγαθός (agathon "good"). I'm wondering if the "limited" translation is from the idea of oligos as in oligarchy as in rule by a few or limited number. If I've misunderstood ὤριστα I am more than open to correction!

PS. There is ὀριστός from ὀρίζω (horízō, "separate, delimit") but ὤριστα with its sense connected to "the good" seems to me to make sense here.

[ἄριστος - Wiktionary](#)

I would be curious to get @Nate 's take.

PS: I found it interesting that the predicates in the first phrase are ὤριστα ooristai and εὐπόριστός euporistos. The first appears to be a feminine plural and the second appears to be masculine? So, do they apply to ploutos (it would appear given the ending of the euporistos) or to "nature" physeos? This is where my Greek knowledge begins to break down 😞

Per LSJ:

[εὐπόρ-ιστος](#) , [ον](#), ([πορίζω](#))

**A.** easy to procure or secure, *Id.Ep.3p.63U.*, *Sent.21*, *Fr.469*, *Dsc.Eup. Praef.*: Sup., [ἀμπεχόνη](#), [οἰκία](#), *Ph.2.424*, cf. *Phld.D.1.15*; feasible, [Cic.Att.7.1.7](#); [εὐπόριστα](#) (sc. [φάρμακα](#)), [τά](#), common, family medicines: title of work by *Dsc.*, *Orib.Eup.Praef.* (called [περὶ ἀπλῶν φαρμάκων](#) in codd. of *Dsc.Eup.*); also, ordinary food, opp. game out of season, [Plu.Luc.40](#), [Pomp.2. II](#). Act., providing one's subsistence with ease, [Ptol.Tetr.155](#).