

Episode 174 - "Epicurus And His Philosophy" Part 26 - Chapter 12 - The New Hedonism 03

Post by "Don" of May 19, 2023 at 7:30 PM

VS78 came up in the episode:

The noble soul is devoted most of all to wisdom and to friendship — one a mortal good, the other immortal.

ὁ γενναῖος περὶ σοφίαν καὶ φιλίαν μάλιστα γίγνεται, ὧν τὸ μὲν ἐστὶ θνητὸν ἀγαθόν, τὸ δὲ ἀθάνατον.

This Vatican Saying puzzled me for a long time, and I don't know whether I read this somewhere (probably) or it hit me.

I looked at the words usually rendered mortal and immortal: θνητὸν - liable to death, mortal, opposite: ἀθάνατος literally "un-dying"

Wisdom σοφίαν is mortal because it dies with us. Our own wisdom, what we know, dies with our mind.

Friendship φιλίαν exists after our death in the memories of our friends.

That's how I interpret this saying now.