

June 28, 2023 - Wednesday Night Zoom - VS 8 & 9

Post by "Cassius" of June 28, 2023 at 9:35 AM

Tonight we are dividing time between:

1 - The Vatican Sayings:

VS08. The wealth required by Nature is limited and is easy to procure; but the wealth required by vain ideals extends to infinity.

VS09. Necessity is an evil, but [there is no necessity to live under the control of necessity](#).

2 - Our Special Topic

Tonight I suggest we think about and discuss a continuing question: Is there anything in Epicurean philosophy that tells a particular person what particular pleasure to choose (or pain to avoid) at any particular time. In other words, this is a variation of the old question: "Is one pleasure better than another?" And the goal should be to come up with some kind of coherent analysis of how we would recommend a particular person at a particular time to proceed. Is all we can say is "It's contextual and up to you!" Or is there more for which we can find justification in the Epicurean texts?

I am starting this thread after a couple of comments have come in already:

Godfrey wrote: " Lucretius writes in Book 3 about the fear of death. The desires and behaviors that he lists, to me, fall into the unnatural/vain/toxic desires category, which would apply to VS08. Things such as wanting statues of yourself, pursuing political fame and the like." (Primarily lines 59-93.)

Attendees should also plan to be sure they are on Kalosyni's conversation list, and if you are not already on that and want the Zoom link so you can attend, please message [Kalosyni](#) or any other [moderator](#).