

# "Absence Of Pain Is Pleasure" - How Would You Articulate That To Someone?

Post by "Cassius" of November 17, 2023 at 9:34 AM

Thinking out loud about some potential rhetoric that needs to be fine-tuned but here's the thought:

*Q: What's the difference between Pop Modern Epicureanism and Classical Greco-Roman Epicureanism?*

***A: Pop Modern Epicureans accept Cicero's argument that absence of pain (ataraxia / tranquility) is something different and higher than Pleasure, while Classical Greco-Roman Epicureans laughed in Cicero's face at the very idea.***

## Quote

Cicero: "...[B]ut unless you are extraordinarily obstinate you are bound to admit that 'freedom from pain' does not mean the same thing as 'pleasure.'" Torquatus: "Well but on this point you will find me obstinate, for it is as true as any proposition can be." ...

Cicero: Still, granting that there is nothing better (that point I waive for the moment), surely it does not therefore follow that what I may call the negation of pain is the same thing as pleasure?" Torquatus: "Absolutely the same, indeed the negation of pain is a very intense pleasure, the most intense pleasure possible." Cicero - "On Ends" Book 2:iii:9 and 2:iii:11 (Rackham)