

April 7, 2025 - First Monday Epicurean Philosophy Zoom - Agenda

Post by "Cassius" of April 8, 2025 at 7:15 PM

[Quote from AxA](#)

So I judge my life against this expanded sense of time, and see it as very inconvenient to only be alive for a tiny part of it.

Yes I feel the same way, and I think it's important not to let the Epicurean view that you don't need an unlimited time to attain the fullness of pleasure lead you to think that it's entirely irrelevant how long you live. I don't think that was Epicurus' view at all - as evidenced by his comments about the desirability of life and his opposition to suicide.

[Quote from AxA](#)

I can't fathom the meaning of beauty (or honour or excellence, translating the same word as beauty) that does not bring pleasure.

Ha -- YOU can't, nor can most normal people in my view, but apparently Plato and the stoics had no problem thinking that way at all, and finding "beauty" to have nothing to do with pleasure whatsoever.

[Quote from AxA](#)

I'm not convinced of the value of "morality" as a concept

Yep. "Morality" can be a useful term, sort of like "ethics," but like most (all?) abstractions it has no real meaning outside of particular circumstances. You can say that "pleasure and pain" are also tied to circumstances, but Nature gives you a very direct awareness of those without need of logical or conceptual identification. Pleasure and pain can also be viewed as abstractions in the way we use the terms, but they are immediately traceable back to the "feeling" given by nature.