

The Absence of Sin

Post by "Don" of April 21, 2025 at 9:32 PM

Diogenes Laertius, *Lives of Philosophers*, X.120: "The school holds that *sins* are not all equal ; ..."

Δοκεῖ δ' αὐτοῖς ἀμαρτήματα ἄνισα εἶναι. ...

(The school) Holds the doctrine that failures are unequal, ... (my translation)

LSJ: ἀμάρτημα , ατος, τό,

A. failure, fault, S.Ant.1261 (Iyr.); freq. in Att. Prose, Antipho 3.3.8, Th.2.65, etc.; midway between ἀδίκημα and ἀτύχημα, Arist.EN1135b18, Rh.1374b7; sinful action, opp. κατόρθωμα, Zeno Stoic.1.54, cf. PTeb.5.3, etc.; "τὸ περὶ τὴν τέχνην λεγόμενον ἄ." Pl.Pl.296b, cf. Ap.22d; "εἷς τινα" Id.Lg.729e; "περὶ τὸ σῶμα" Id.Grg.479a.

"midway between ἀδίκημα and ἀτύχημα" occurs in Aristotle, Nichomachean Ethics. ie, between something intentional wrong or error of judgement and misfortune or fault of ignorance, a mistake.

Middle Liddell: 1. a failure, fault, sin, Soph., Plat. 2. a bodily defect, malady, id=Plat.