

Characteristics of the Wise Man, 1-9 Rough Draft of Outline

Post by "Cassius" of May 29, 2020 at 3:50 PM

[Quote from Don](#)

From my perspective, experiencing the fullness of pleasure doesn't mean one is blissed out all the time

Not sure if you have got to this part of the DeWitt book where he discusses "Fullness of pleasure" but DEFINITELY this is a term that deserves a lot of discussion. I agree with your statement there that I quoted from you, but I don't think we have a clear definition of what "sage" means or "fullness of pleasure" means in this context.

And AH-- Here I think we have to modify: "That's what I meant about having mastery over your choices and rejections to maximize long-term pleasure." I think you will agree with me on careful thought that "long-term" is a term that has to be handled carefully, as it seems to imply that the long-term is always the most desirable outlook, when the letter to Menoecus makes pretty clear that that is NOT a complete statement of the proper measure.

"And just as with food he does not seek simply the larger share and nothing else, but rather the most pleasant, so he seeks to enjoy not the longest period of time, but the most pleasant."

I know I have many times myself described the goal as "long-term pleasure" but I don't think that is tenable in light of the sentence quoted.