

On "Desires" And Their Relationship To Pleasure

Post by "Don" of September 11, 2020 at 5:43 AM

I think it's important to remember what word Epicurus used to refer to "desire" επιθυμία epithumia. From LSJ:

ἐπιθυμία, Ion. -ιη, ἡ, **A. [select]** *desire, yearning*, "ἐ. ἐκτελέσαι" [Hdt.1.32](#); ἐπιθυμία by *passion*, opp. [προνοία](#), [Th.6.13](#): generally, *appetite*, [Pl.Cra.419d](#), etc.; [αἱ κατὰ τὸ σῶμα ἐ.](#) [Id. Phd.82c](#); esp. *sexual desire, lust*, [Democr.234](#) (pl.), [Pl.Phdr.232b](#), etc.; [αἱ πρὸς τοὺς παῖδας ἐ.](#) [X. Lac.2.14](#).

2. [select] . c. gen., *longing after a thing, desire of or for it*, [ὑδατος, τοῦ πιεῖν](#), [Th.2.52](#), [7.84](#), etc.; "[τοῦ πλέονος](#)" [Democr. 224](#); "[τῆς τιμωρίας](#)" [Antipho 2.1.7](#); "[τῆς μεθ' ὑμῶν πολιτείας](#)" [And.2.10](#); "[τῆς παρθενίας](#)" [Pl.Cra.406b](#); "[εἰς ἐ. τινὸς ἐλθεῖν](#)" [Id.Criti.113d](#); [ἐν ἐ.](#) "[τινὸς εἶναι](#)" [Id. Prt.318a](#), [Tht.143e](#); "[γεγονέναι](#)" [Id.Lg.841c](#); [εἰς ἐ. τινὸς](#) "[ἀφικέσθαι θεάσασθαι](#)" [Id.Ti.19b](#); "[ἐ. τινὸς ἐμβαλεῖν τινί](#)" [X.Cyr.1.1.5](#); [ἐ. ἐμποιεῖν ἔς τινα](#) *an inclination towards . . .*, [Th.4.81](#).

II. [select] . = [ἐπιθύμημα](#), *object of desire*, [ἐπιθυμίας τυχεῖν](#) [Thalesap.Stob.3.1.172](#), cf. [Lync. ap. Ath.7.295a](#); [ἀνδρὸς ἐ.](#), of woman, [Secund.Sent.8](#); [πενήτων ἐ.](#), of sleep, prob. in [ib.13](#).