

“Better to lose the money because of me than to lose me because of the money.”

Post by “TauPhi” of November 19, 2024 at 7:57 PM

I was recreationally reading the Gnomologium Vaticanum (not to be confused with the Gnomologium Vaticanum Epicureum) and when I stumbled upon sayings related to Aristippus, I started to laugh out loud. Even if a fraction of those sayings are true, Aristippus was quite a character. If you're curious what the title quotation is about, check saying 39 here: <https://ryanfb.xyz/gnomvat/gnomvat>

I strongly suggest to go through other 576 sayings as well. And for those interested in the ancient world, investigate Ryan Baumann's website in detail. You will find links to some real treasure there - like scans of 277 Loeb's that are currently in public domain or Index of Ancient Greek Lexica.

Post by “Don” of November 19, 2024 at 9:13 PM

That site is a great resource! Thanks for sharing.

182 is pretty good:

Ὁ αὐτὸς ἐρωτηθεὶς ὑπὸ Ἀριστίππου τί αὐτῷ περιεγένετο ἐκ φιλοσοφίας εἶπε· „τὸ πλουτεῖν μηδὲ ὀβολὸν ἔχοντα.“

[Diogenes], having been asked by Aristippus what he got as the result of his philosophy, said: “To be wealthy without having an obol.”

Post by “Cassius” of November 19, 2024 at 9:18 PM

Thanks Tau Phi! I had heard of the Downloebables website but not that one.

Post by “Don” of November 19, 2024 at 9:30 PM

Although I, of course, have issues with Plutarch, I've always enjoyed his *Sayings of the Spartans*. For example:

Someone on seeing a painting in which Spartans were depicted being slain by Athenians, kept repeating, 'Brave, brave Athenians.' A Spartan cut in with, 'Yes, in the picture!'"

Philip wrote at the time when he entered their country, asking whether they wished that he should come as a friend or as a foe; and they made answer, 'Neither.'

A man who was visiting Sparta stood for a long time upon one foot, and said to a Spartan, 'I do [p. 401] not think that you, sir, could stand upon one foot as long as that'; and the other interrupting said, 'No, but there is not a single goose that could not do it.'

Leonidas:

When someone said, 'Because of the arrows of the barbarians it is impossible to see the sun,' he said, 'Won't it be nice, then, if we shall have shade in which to fight them?'

[Plutarch, Apophthegmata Laconica, INTRODUCTION, section 1](#)