

Epicurean philosophy vs. Stoicism in public popularity

Post by "Don" of March 20, 2021 at 8:02 AM

I'll admit the Stoic mention was a throwaway line. I freely admit I shouldn't have thrown that in there because i don't know enough about the Stoics to say that unequivocally. I'mma gonna take that back. So...

[Quote from Cassius](#)

Unless I am shown that i need to revise my understanding of the Stoics or others on this point I think that I'm probably correct,

I'll concede this, but...

[Quote from Cassius](#)

and this isn't just a minor point but perhaps why we keep sparring over [PD10](#). Truly I think that Epicurus held that the word virtue and all of its particular instances has NO MEANING unless it actually leads to pleasure, so he basically held the word to be without content except as defined in a particular circumstance,

I don't think [PD10](#) has anything to do with virtue. Let me be clear. The cautions Epicurus lays out in opposition to the profligate life in [PD10](#) has *nothing* to do with whether it's "virtuous" or not. Zero. And there's no question whether the "lost" in [PD10](#) experiences pleasure. They do. The reason that those life choices can be cautioned against is that they do not - from observation over time and multiple instances - do not reliably lead to a lifetime of pleasure. Trying to say that they do or can is living in a utopian hypothetical fantasy world. And Epicurus urged people to live in the real natural material cosmos. You can experience pleasure for a bit if you do this, but that path is not choice-worthy. You have been warned.