

Altruism

Post by “Don” of May 30, 2021 at 1:07 PM

[Quote from Dubitator314](#)

For example, if a person gets pleasure from giving to a battered woman's shelter, would that be an an Epicurean ethical action?

Yep (from my perspective)

For me, it goes back to Epicurus's assertion in his Principle Doctrine 5:

"It is not possible to live a pleasurable life without the traits of wisdom, morality, and justice; and it is impossible to live with wisdom, morality, and justice without living pleurably. When one of these is lacking, it is impossible to live a pleasurable life. It is not possible to live a pleasurable life without the traits of wisdom, morality, and justice; and it is impossible to live with wisdom, morality, and justice without living pleurably. When one of these is lacking, it is impossible to live a pleasurable life. "

It's also practical. If I'm "altruistic" (or just a nice person) that makes it more likely or at least probable that I will be seen favorably by others. If I need a favor or assistance in the future, I'll be more likely to receive it if people around me see me that way. That makes for the possibility of more pleasure for me in the future.

I'll stop there for now. I'm sure others will have thoughts too.