

Episode Ninety-Seven - The Virtues as Instrumental For Pleasure: Temperance and Courage

Post by "Joshua" of November 21, 2021 at 11:16 AM

I brought up Boccaccio and his *De Mulieribus Claris*, or *Concerning Famous Women*. In one chapter he talks about the life of the Epicurean Leontion, where he chastises her for demonstrating a perfect lack of "feminine virtues".

I earlier wrote a reply to Boccaccio, which I will copy here:

To Boccaccio: A Rebuke

I mark it, sir, and wonder at it dully,
To find the lady's name maligned so fully
On evidence begot anecdotally;
A pond'rous load to hang by such a pulley!
Was our Leontium so fierce a bully,
Who sent him off peripatetically
Pouting, old Theophrastus; when her volley
Charmed a grudging kindness out of Tully?
And have *you*, sir, the gall to say she sullied?
Who scattered bastards all across Italy!