

Why Tranquility Should Not Be the Main Goal for an Epicurean

Post by “Cassius” of December 1, 2021 at 4:58 AM

So in post number [18](#) above, when Kalosyni writes:

Epicurus – the happy person will be unperturbed.
Stoics – the sage will be unperturbable: nothing that happens can possibly bring him any trouble.

There is this important clarification of 'the happy person will be unperturbed':

Epicurus did claim that the happy person will always enjoy tranquillity, but he did not claim that nothing could disturb him: one will mourn the death of a friend, for example, but since such grief can be overcome or outweighed by pleasant thoughts and memories, including grateful remembrances of the past joys of friendship, peace of mind will generally prevail. A wise man is touched but briefly by fortune's whim;¹³ he will feel some troubles, but he will never be radically thrown off balance.