

Collecting Ancient Instances of the Argument: "Pleasure Cannot Be The Highest Good Because It Has No Limit"

Post by "Cassius" of December 29, 2021 at 5:04 PM

I think Joshua that this is a function of the seductiveness of "logic" -- kind of a Spock-like Vulcan quality.

Many of the ancient Greeks saw our "rationality" as our distinguishing feature as humans, and if that is our distinguishing feature we have to pursue "logic" to its ultimate conclusions.

And I think Epicurus saw that we're surrounded by people like that in philosophy, and if we're going to work with them - if we're going to trap them from the errors of their logic -- we have to point out those errors in a way that seems "logical" -- and I do think that is possible. It's not sufficient, but it's possible. I suspect if we had more Epicurus texts we'd have a lot more warnings about that, but we already have a good number, I think, that show that he was fighting against this kind of Platonic "logic" orientation -- made even far worse, and carried to far worse extremes, by the Stoics.