

Hypotheticals: Would An Epicurean Hook Himself Up To An "Experience Machine" or a "Pleasure Machine"?

Post by "Matt" of January 8, 2022 at 2:21 PM

Saying this hypothetical machine exists, it has to exist in the same universe where the natural pleasures ALSO exist, otherwise by what standard would the machine or person judge what a perfect "artificial" copy version of the pleasure is? Without the natural version as a standard? Then the person could judge whether the real thing is better. This universe is a necessity for the machine to exist. In a universe where pain is also present to contrast with pleasure. So it cannot just exist hypothetically in a paradise-like vacuum where there are no problems or pain humans experience on the regular...that would necessitate a "magical" pleasure machine to escape them. And if it does exist here the parameters must change.

It can't be both ways for the person positing this... it has to exist in this natural universe and if it does it has to operate exactly how nature operates here. Otherwise we might as well be talking about how many feathers are on Cherubim wings as opposed to Seraphim wings....or if two headed dragons are more likely to live in mountain caves as opposed to underground caves.