

# From The "Golden Mean" to the "Summum Bonum" - Useful or Deceptive Frames of Reference?

Post by "Eikadistes" of February 19, 2022 at 10:49 AM

To my knowledge, *ΤΑΓΑΘΟΝ* is not found in the texts of early Ionian philosophers (whom De Witt identifies as being a philosophical inspiration for Epicurus), and Democritus rarely uses *ΤΑΓΑΘΟΝ* in favor of the abundant *ΤΑΓΑΘΑ* or "the goods" (<https://philarchive.org/archive/PACTCO-8v1>). Where we cannot find many instances of *ΤΑΓΑΘΟΝ* in Epicurean writings, and their older cousins, we find an abundance of the word in the writings of his contemporary and earlier opponents.

I did just notice that Epicurus only refers to *ΦΡΟΝΗΣΙΣ* as "the greatest good", but never as "the good", "the first good" or "The Good" which he explicitly uses elsewhere to reserve for "pleasure". So, I think I see what you mean, [Don](#).