

Episode One Hundred Eleven - Torquatus Summarizes The Significance of the Epicurus

Post by "Cassius" of February 27, 2022 at 11:23 AM

You never know exactly where discussions will end up and I want to remember to comment about this so posting it now:

We ended up with some interesting opinions on the meaning of:

[Quote from Cassius](#)

No! Epicurus was not uneducated: the real philistines are those who ask us to go on studying till old age the subjects that we ought to be ashamed not to have learnt in boyhood.

Martin raised the issue: Is this a reference to continuing to study "music and geometry, arithmetic and astronomy," or a broader reference to philosophy itself?

You'll need to hear our discussion to get the subtlety of the difference but I had previously thought this a reference more to "philosophic conclusions in general" such as "pleasure is the goal" rather than to the other sciences. In particular, what is that that the word "learnt" or "learned" is supposed to refer to? Does that imply that a particular study to be "completed?"

For those of you who may have heard recent AFDIA sessions, is this related to Kevin's observation that he wondered whether Epicurus thought he had "figured out" certain important questions with some sense of finality?

I'll get the episode posted as soon as I can but this is one question raised today that I think will be worth discussing.