

Philodemus' "On Anger" - General - Texts and Resources

Post by "Cassius" of April 1, 2022 at 5:56 PM

sure in taking vengeance.***

Sages and good people have an alternative, at any rate, if it appears that punishment for the harm intentionally done them is not in their power to inflict, and their natural anger cannot lead to action. They can, and in any case will, simply feel "alienation" from and "hatred" for the offender, and to any degree of intensity they like (41.39–42.4). At any rate, as we will discuss in more detail later, it is made very clear that natural anger is brief and does not cause great mental disturbance (*ταραχή*) to them any more than great physical pains do (42.4–12). But it is a feeling that is more than enough to motivate a forceful and decisive response (41.2–8).