

Atlantic article about enjoyment vs. pleasure

Post by “reneliza” of May 4, 2022 at 10:31 AM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

I think that's the first way you have to understand Epicurus. When he says things to the effect that "pleasure is the goal of life" he's contrasting that conclusion to (1), (2), or (3) above. He's not prescribing a medication or giving precise clinical advice for particular person to follow at a particular moment.

I would take for granted that those three should be rejected (although it's clear that others don't think the same.) I hold reason in high regard, but I can't imagine how it could be an end instead of a tool.

If I'd been asked a week ago "What is the goal of human life?" I would've said something like "to live as much of your life as you can in support of your values" but my "values" which I talk about a lot are unrelated to the Stoic virtues (for one, they're individual - like playing with my family and creating - and probably would be more closely related to Epicurean desires) Drilling down to *why* living according to my values was the goal, I would've probably ended on "because those are the things that make me happy"