

Natural Wealth and Natural Goods in Epicureanism

Post by “Don” of July 21, 2022 at 11:04 PM

PD15 Ὁ τῆς φύσεως πλοῦτος καὶ ὠρίσται καὶ εὐπόριστός ἐστιν· ὁ δὲ τῶν κενῶν δοξῶν εἰς ἄπειρον ἐκπίπτει.

- Πλούτος wealth, riches
- ὠρίσται (verb 3rd sg perf ind mp redupl) divide, limit
- εὐπόριστός easy to procure
- ὁ τῶν κενῶν δοξῶν empty beliefs
- ἄπειρον boundless, infinite (same word to describe the extent of the universe)

ἐκπίπτω

- 1. to fall out of a chariot, c. gen., Hom., etc.; c. dat. pers., τόξον δέ οἱ ἔκπεσε χειρός II.
- 2. of seafaring men, to be thrown ashore, Lat. ejici, Od., Hdt., etc.: of things, to suffer shipwreck, Xen.
- 3. to fall from a thing, i. e. be deprived of it, Lat. excidere, τινός or ἔκ τινος Aesch., etc.
- 4. to be driven out, of persons banished, Hdt., etc.
- 5. to go out or forth, sally out, id=Hdt., Xen.
- 6. to come out, of votes, id=Xen.
- 7. to escape, Thuc.
- 8. of oracles, to issue from the sanctuary, be imparted, Luc.
- 9. to depart from, digress, Xen., Aeschin.
- to fall off, come to naught, NTest.
- 11. of actors, to be hissed off the stage, Lat. explodi, Dem.
 - fut. -πεσοῦμαι
 - aor2 ἐξέπεσον
 - Nature's treasure has boundaries and is easy to procure; the riches based on empty beliefs are infinite and always out of reach.

Don translation: Nature's treasure has boundaries and is easy to procure; the riches based on empty beliefs are infinite and always out of reach.

Hicks translation: Nature's wealth has its bounds and is easy to procure, but the wealth of vain fancies recedes to an infinite distance.

Saint-Andre translational: Natural wealth is both limited and easy to acquire, but the riches incited by groundless opinion are boundless.