

Welcome Kungi!

Post by “Kalosyni” of July 23, 2022 at 9:59 PM

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[Quote from Kungi](#)

What is virtue for an epicurean?

This is a good question, and I agree with what the others have said so far.

It also brings up the idea of actually listing (on one's own, for oneself) what virtues lead to pleasure and a pleasant life. This should be a kind of simple common sense list, and it may be worth some contemplation. This list would be based on what leads to the best outcome for the overall most pleasant life. I would say thinking about this will bring one to think rationally, justly, and wisely when moving through life.

As for my own studies, I have been focusing on the Principle Doctrines, the Vatican Sayings, and the Letter to Menoecus. (And wanting to eventually study more closely the Diogenes Wall of Oinoanda, the "wise man" list within Diogenes Laertius Book X, as well as "unpack" the Torquatus section of Cicero's "On Ends".)

Also an important interpretation regarding pleasure -- to remember "it is not the pleasures of the profligate" (letter to Menoecus) AND "no pleasure is bad, but some lead to much worse pains" (PD8). And here one might want to contemplate what would be considered to be excessive and also what would bring longterm pains -- some things are obvious and others may just be a matter of trial and error. I would say that there is no one-size-fits-all "absolute rule" list, because wisdom comes from thinking these things through for oneself -- though a friend might speak privately to another good friend about these things if a particular situation comes up requiring it (not in judgment, but out of caring and compassion).

Good luck in your continued Epicurean studies! 😊