

# Welcome Kungi!

Post by "Kungi" of July 25, 2022 at 10:44 AM

## [Quote from Don](#)

Thanks for bringing your thread back around to the Stoic/Epicurean question. My first thought when reading the list of virtues was Principal Doctrine 5

### Quote from Epicurean Principal Doctrines

My translation: PD5 It is not possible to live a pleasurable life without the traits of (practical) wisdom, morality, and justice; and it is impossible to live with wisdom, morality, and justice without living pleurably. When one of these is lacking, it is impossible to live a pleasurable life.

Consider in light of Fragment 519: The greatest fruit of justice is serenity.  
δικαιοσύνης καρπὸς μέγιστος ἀταραξία.

Epicurus clearly thinks the "virtues" are important, but they are important because they are instrumental to achieving a pleasurable life and not as ends or goals for their own sake.

If I read this correctly the virtues are not only important they are essential. They are necessary and sufficient for the pleasant life as in the mathematical equivalent sense "virtue  $\Leftrightarrow$  pleasurable life". As far as I interpret PD5 there is no difference between Stoicism and Epicureanism in regard to the connection between virtue and the pleasurable life. The difference lies only in the goal.

How would you define "morality" as a virtue? What would Epicurus have meant by this term?