

Welcome Kungi!

Post by “reneliza” of August 2, 2022 at 12:11 PM

[Quote from Kungi](#)

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I think this is the most practical/applied difference between Stoicism and Epicureanism, at least in the modern world.

I am trying for some time now to construct a real life example where a Stoic and an Epicurean will act fundamentally differently based on the Epicureans focus on pleasure instead of the Stoics focus on virtue in and of itself. In all examples I can think of they act the same.

[Cassius](#), [reneliza](#) can you construct such a real world example?

Before I answer this, I need to know if the stoics offered an answer to when the virtues contradicted each other. I didn't study stoicism very long before realizing the only time I agreed with Seneca with my whole self was when he was quoting Epicurus.

Where do you draw the line on courageousness? At what point does courage stop being a virtue? If there is no limit to courage, then it must be temperance that is limited instead, because it apparently doesn't apply to the other virtues. Is there a hierarchy or some way to know which of the virtues should prevail in a given situation?

Edit: FWIW, I'm completely with you on applied philosophy. I'm only interested insofar as it helps me to live my life. In my study of Stoicism I also kind of shrugged off and ignored that virtue was the goal instead of happiness, and treated them as though they were the other way around. When I had a very basic understanding of that philosophy (based on a 20 year old memory of philosophy 101 and conversations with people who'd studied Stoicism a little) I started creating my own life's philosophy which I called stoic hedonism (noting fully how much of a contradiction that sounded to most people.) But then I discovered Epicureanism and didn't have to continue building a whole philosophy from the ground up anymore ☐