

PD19 And The Meaning Of No "Greater" Pleasure

Post by "Cassius" of August 14, 2022 at 7:08 AM

Reneliza I think your math brain is very very useful in this discussion because I think that these doctrines are intended to be highly logically sound.

I also think that in addition to that perspective we have to be sure that we aren't hobbled by other perspectives that we have inherited from Christianity and other viewpoints.

For example Dewitt comments that Epicurus is pointing to a way to console us for loss of immortality (presumably as alleged by religious viewpoints). I am not so sure about that, and in fact I wonder if we fail to grasp some of what Epicurus is saying because we are trying to fit his perspective into a mold in which life can be viewed as fair to everyone. It could be that Epicureans were flatly so convinced of the universe's total lack of overall plan that they weren't at all thinking about any "perfection" and that they were constantly thinking only on practical terms about how best to spend "the present" whatever that happens to be. This is only a half-formed thought but it comes in part from the discussion of how to view the percentage issues ReneLiza mentioned. Given that there is no absolute judge of which choices to make, it really doesn't make much sense to try to develop a science of judging any particular life against hypothetical standards that dont exist except in our mental gymnastics.