

# PD19 And The Meaning Of No "Greater" Pleasure

Post by "Godfrey" of August 20, 2022 at 6:47 PM

## [Quote from reneliza](#)

I'm still curious about the second part though: "if one measures, by reason, the limits of pleasure."

What if we allow for multiple explanations, as in the letter to Pythocles? Reasoning might lead one to:

- A person's pleasure is limited by their finite life: their life is still finite, regardless of the infinity of time.
- If you're in a state of pleasure, the length of time of that state is immaterial and can't be quantified, so finite or infinite time are irrelevant (correct me if I'm wrong; that's how I understand Martin's point).
- Using the idea of homeostasis (at least as I understand it) as a teeter-totter, pleasure can be thought of as a state of balance. Too much pleasure brings pain, which seeks a return to the state of balance and could be considered as a limit to pleasure. In the absence of pleasure, we'll do anything to obtain it, to return to the state of balance.

These are three valid (I think) ideas of the limits of pleasure and there are certainly more. The previous PDs provide guidelines to understand pleasure, to use while reasoning this out. I think there are multiple ways to interpret this, as long as you use reasoning to rule out interpretations such as "God will fill my life with pleasure, whether in this life or the next, so I don't need to worry about time" or "I can do whatever I want to find pleasure, regardless of the consequences".

The more you grapple with reasoning out the issue, the more ramifications and nuances you might find.