

Episode One Hundred Thirty Eight - Letter to Menoeceus 5 - Pleasure Part One

Post by “Don” of September 6, 2022 at 9:58 AM

More resources of varying academic rigor:

[The Passions according to the Stoa](#)

Image not found or type unknown



[Concupiscence - Wikipedia](#)

en.wikipedia.org

[Chastity and Lust](#)

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/2651-episode-one-hundred-thirty-eight-letter-to-menoceus-5-pleasure-part-one/?postID=19649#post19649>

Way too Christian but I thought this might be helpful:

§ 4. Ἐπιθυμία / *epithumia* = *DESIRE, LONGING, LUST*

[Latin: *desiderio*]

1. *In classical Greek: In Homer and the pre-Socratics ἐπιθυμία / epithumia denotes the direct impulse towards food, sexual satisfaction etc., and also desire in general. In the first instance there is nothing morally objectionable or even suspicious about it. Plato and Aristotle still use the term in a neutral sense; however, they encourage theoretical and practical aloofness from the sensual world. Thus from the Stoics onwards ἐπιθυμία / epithumia acquires a negative connotation in philosophical circles.*

So, it looks like the Christians and Stoics started using epithymia/epithumia (u/y both transliterate Greek upsilon υ) negatively for "lust" but it didn't start out that way.