

Did Epicurus Commit Suicide Due To His Disease? (Merger of Two Threads On When Voluntary Death Makes Sense)

Post by "Cassius" of December 8, 2022 at 6:22 AM

I see the Epicurus wiki says this, with which i agree:

Suicide

[Epicurus](#) saw very few cases in which **suicide** might be justified.

Unlike the [Stoics](#), who famously advocated suicide in a great number of cases, where "the wise man could no longer live according to his principles", Epicurus and his followers took a more humanly acceptable view of the matter: recognizing that humans are normally inclined to want to go on living because of the pleasures of life, and correlating this with the axiomatic value of [pleasure](#), Epicurus insisted that suicide is foolhardy, or at the very least: that it be considered as a measure of very last resort.

The fourth tenet of the [Four-Part Cure](#) alludes precisely to this: what is painful, is easy to endure. In illness, we hope to regain our [health](#); even when the illness is chronic and painful, the [pain](#) grows dull with habituation, and we learn to cherish the pleasures left us, despite the pain; finally, when pain reaches an unbearable maximum, [death](#) cannot be far behind it -- and death means the cessation of the senses, and thus of both pleasure and pain.

Epicurus' view on suicide is both humane and practical: it does not entirely disallow suicide (as does [Christianity](#), and other religious faiths), nor does it offer it too readily, either as escapism or as an article in some code of honor (as have done several militarist cultures).

[Suicide - Epicurus Wiki](#)