

Epicurus' Birthday 2023 - (The Most Comprehensive Picture Yet!)

Post by “Don” of December 17, 2022 at 7:30 AM

I found last night that Hesychius of Alexandria in his *Lexicon* of unusual and obscure Greek words written in the 5th or 6th c. CE includes the following entry:

δεκάτη προτέρα· ἢ πρὸ εἰκάδος, ὡς ὑστέρα· ἢ μετ' εἰκάδα

δεκάτη προτέρα· ἢ πρὸ εἰκάδος ("for/instead of εἰκάδος/20th"), like ὑστέρα· ἢ μετ' εἰκάδα ("after εἰκάδα/20th, i.e., 21st")

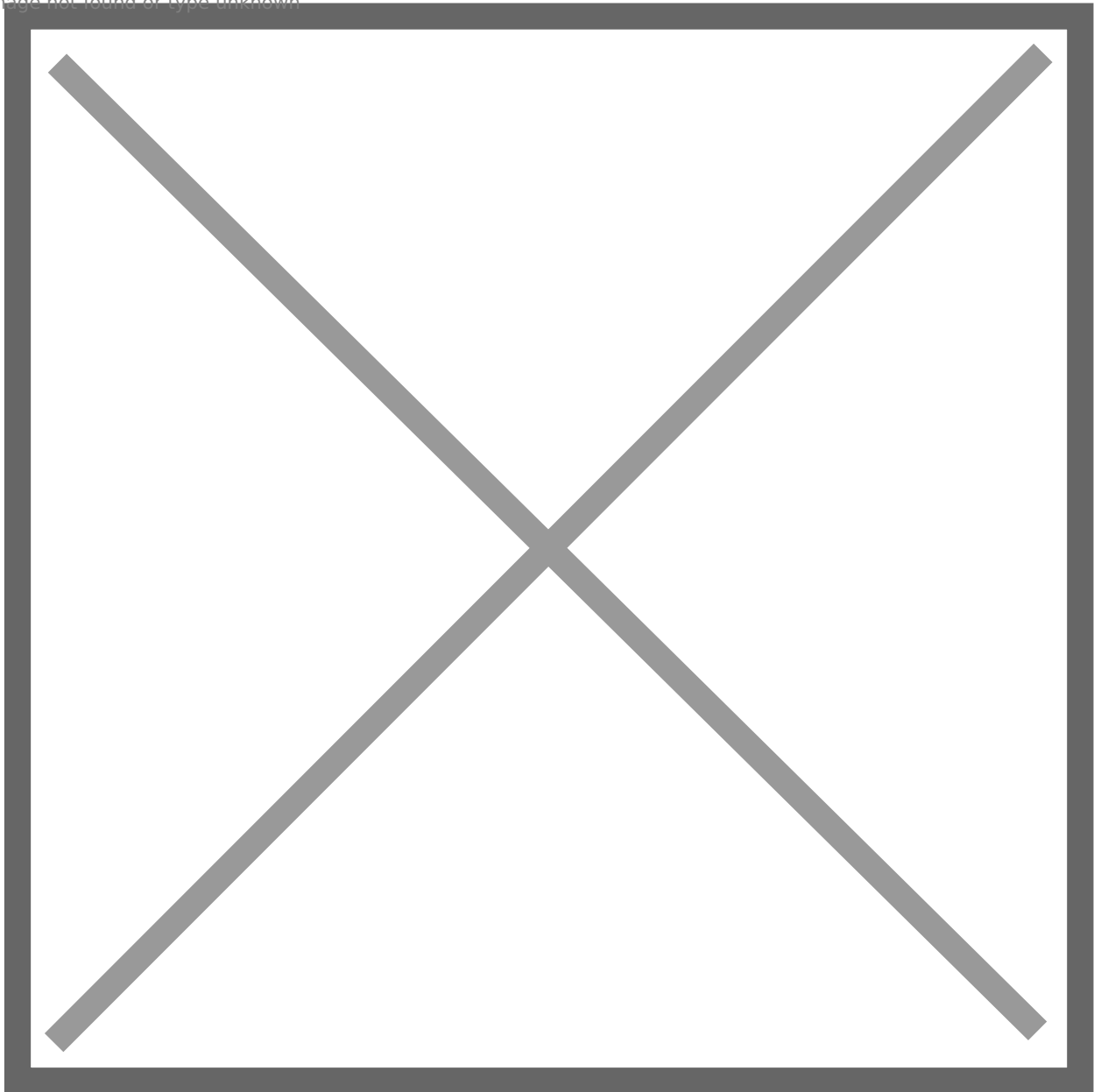
PS: Note - I'm getting that use of πρὸ from LSJ, definition III.1.

[Henry George Liddell, Robert Scott, A Greek-English Lexicon, πρό](#)

III. in other relations:

1. of Preference, *before, rather than*, κέρδος αἰνῆσαι π. δίκας to praise sleight *before* right, Pi.P.4.140, cf. Pi.R.361e; πᾶν δὴ βουλόμενοι σφίσι εἶναι π. τῆς παρεούσης λύπης anything *before, rather than*, their actual trouble, Hdt.7.152 (*so, in order to avoid*, “π. τοῦ δεινοτάτου” D.54.19); “πᾶν π. τοῦ δουλεῦσαι ἐπεξελεθεῖν” Th.5.100, cf.4.59; ἐλέσθαι, αἰρεῖσθαι, or κρῖναί τι π. τινός to choose one *before* another, Id.5.36, Pi.R.366b, Phlb.57e; π. πολλοῦ ποιήσασθαι to esteem *above* much, i.e. very highly, Isoc.5.138; “π. πολλῶν χρημάτων τιμῆσασθαί τι” Th.1.33, cf.6.10; π. ἄλλων *more than* others, Pi.Mx.249e (v.l.), cf. A. Th.1002; δυσδαίμων . . π. πασῶν γυναικῶν ib.927 (codd., lyr.); “π. πάντων θεῶν τῇ Ἑστίᾳ πρώτη προθύειν” Pi.Cra. 401d: after a Comp. it is redundant, “ἡ τυραννὶς π. ἐλευθερίας ἀσπαστότερον” Hdt.1.62, cf.6.12, Pi.Ap.28d, Cri.54b, Phd.99a; for ἢ after “ἄλλος, οὐδεὶς ἄλλος π. σεῦ” Hdt.3.85, cf.7.3.

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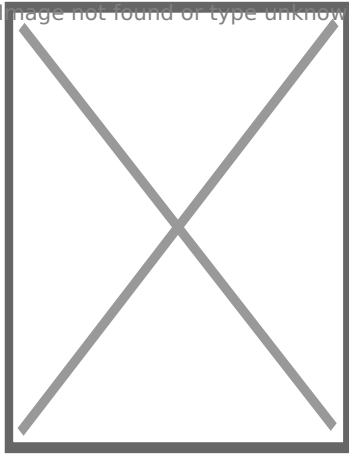
[Hesychius of Alexandria - Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hesychius_of_Alexandria)

en.wikipedia.org

That's an ancient author providing specific definitions for both δεκάτη προτέρα and δεκάτη ὑστέρα as alternative names for the 20th and 21st days of the month.

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/2756-epicurus-birthday-2023-the-most-comprehensive-picture-yet/?postID=21289#post21289>

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[Hesychii Alexandrini lexicon : Hesychius, of Alexandria : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive](#)

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