

Perspectives On "Proving" That Pleasure is "The Good"

Post by "Cassius" of December 20, 2022 at 3:11 PM

[Quote from Todd](#)

My problem is with the implicit assumption that any deviation from the original state of nature is necessarily for the worse.

I would say that is not implicit Epicurus' position at all. He was certainly in favor of living in civilization and seems to have enjoyed a good life under the Athenian system, which is not at all a state of nature.

If the point is that pleasure and pain are the only faculties that Nature has given for ultimate determination of what to choose and what to avoid, what other or higher faculty would you suggest? Certainly not "reason" because why would anyone choose reason if it did not bring pleasure?

If you want an "anti-life" or "anti-nature" argument it seems to me that there is nothing more pure than that men can invent for themselves a faculty of choice better than what nature has provided.