

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

Post by "Todd" of December 21, 2022 at 7:06 AM

As per the title, of this thread, I think I have reached a final conclusion:

PLEASURE IS NOT THE HIGHEST GOOD! (click-bait, but bear with me)

Pleasure is not a good at all.

Pleasure is the standard by which all other things are judged to be good.

Nature knows nothing of good or bad. Nature gave us only pleasure and pain as standards.

To ask if pleasure is the highest good is making a category error - like asking if a horse is faster than time.

To say pleasure is the highest good is not to advocate hedonism, it is to undermine it. It is demoting pleasure to the realm of goods, where it is merely one of many. Maybe the highest or greatest, but still one of many.

Epicurean philosophy should reject the entire concept of the highest good.

Note: DeWitt has a section titled "The Summum Bonum Fallacy", which I have probably read dozens of times, but I never got the impression that this was what he was talking about. Will have to re-read with this in mind and see.