

Is pleasure as the natural goal of life falsifiable?

Post by "Matteng" of February 4, 2023 at 10:26 AM

Some Ideas from my side (I often change between the stoic / epicurean perspective)

In Epicurean Philosophy virtue and pleasure are bound together.

Is the opposite falsifiable ? Or is virtue alone distinct from pleasure a better goal for life ?

That could be if a Stoic can proof me this thesis:

"Is there virtue or a virtuous act which brings in the short and long run no pleasure and no reduction of any pain ?"

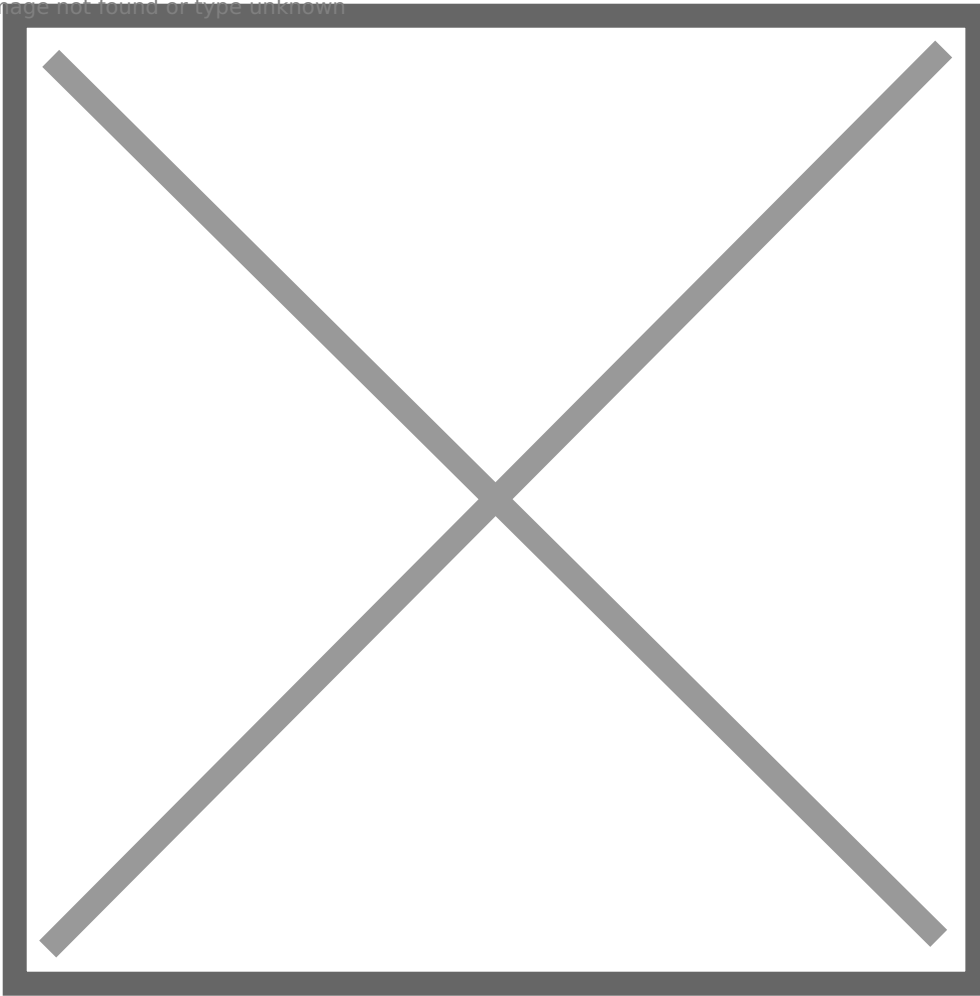
Another question: Is there anywhere a table/summary for defense of pleasure as a goal of life ?

(I know for Epicurus this statement was obvious but even that is a statement and it seems for not clear / obvious for some other philosophies).

So where go these philosophy wrong and why (especially the Stoics ? In the naturalist philosophies they are the closest competitor I think).

Here are some summarized attacks on this goal (pleasure):

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[Stoic Arguments Against Hedonism](#)

Some notes on hedonism and the ancient criticisms made of it by Stoics and others.

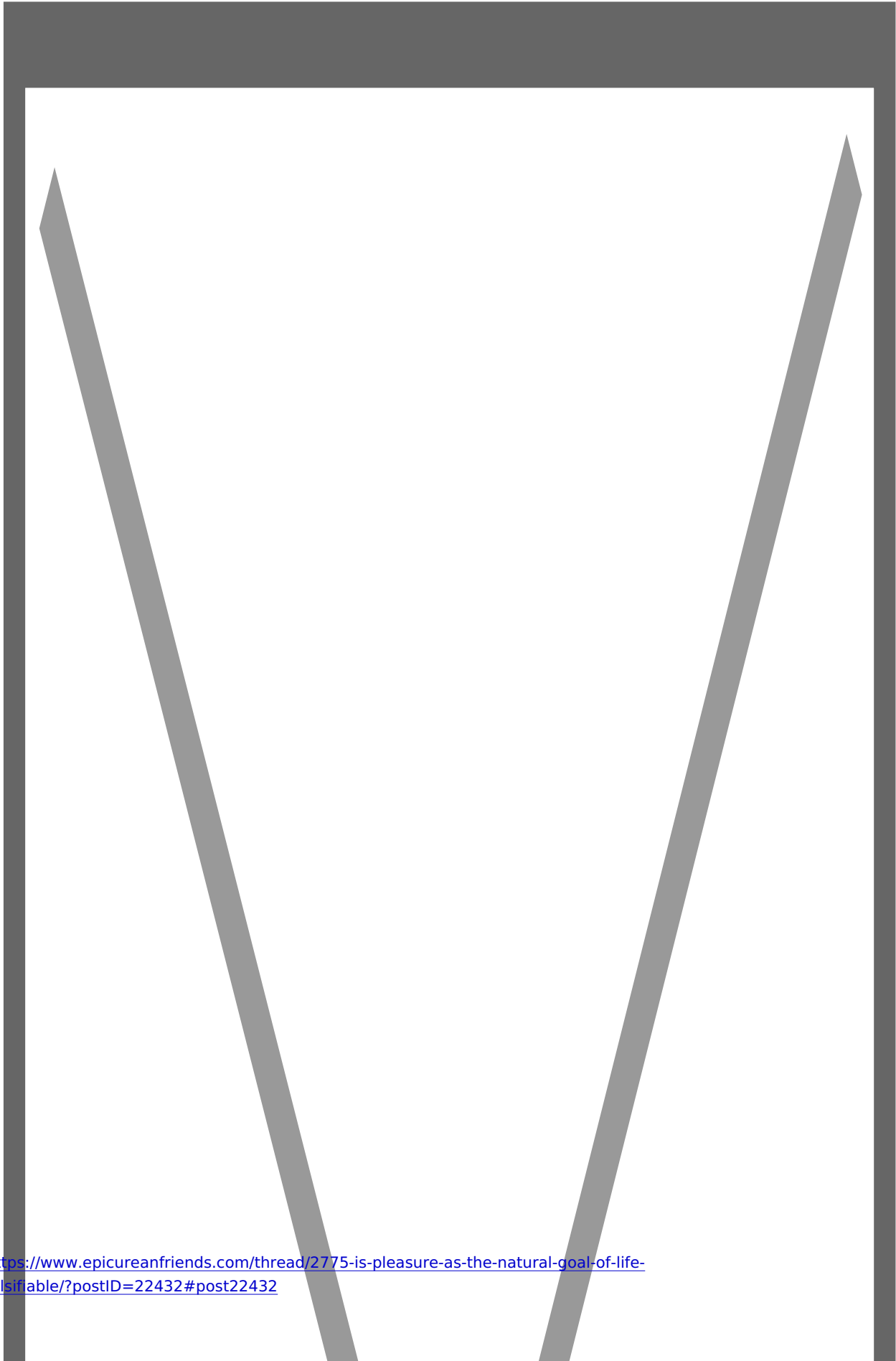
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[Virtue is its own Reward](#)

The Stoic doctrine that "virtue is its own reward".

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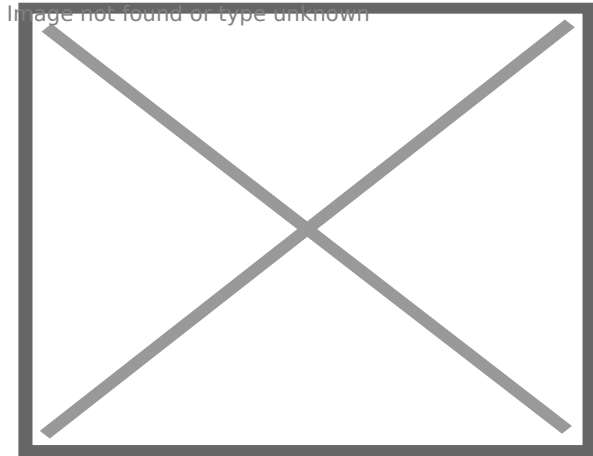


<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/2775-is-pleasure-as-the-natural-goal-of-life-falsifiable/?postID=22432#post22432>

[What Seneca Really Said about Epicureanism](#)

Survey of Seneca's remarks about Epicurus in the Letters to Lucilius, and elsewhere.

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[Epictetus: Stoicism versus Epicureanism](#)

Article outlining the criticisms of Epicureanism made by the Stoic Epictetus.

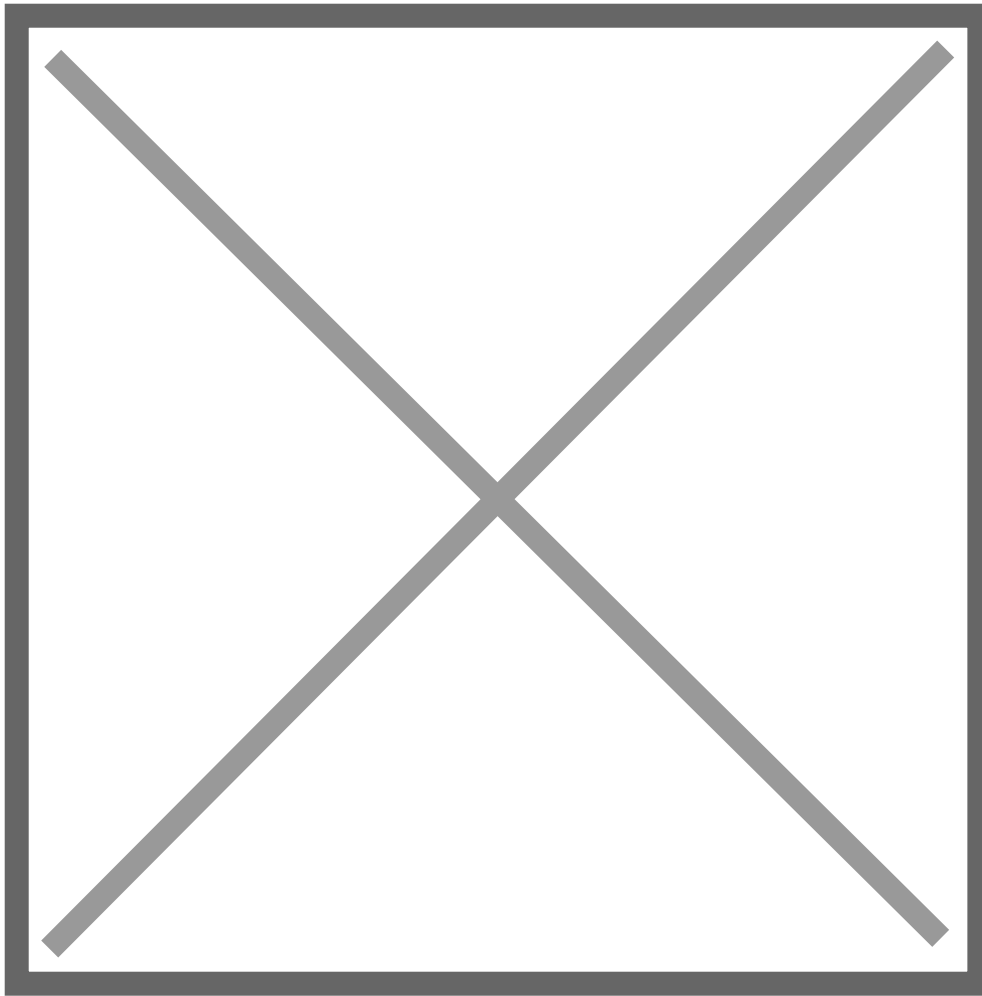
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By the way does this book from Chrysippus still exist or does anyone know the content or the arguments made there ?

Quote

The Stoics defined the goal of life as the attainment of wisdom and virtue. They frequently contrasted this with the common notion that pleasure (*hedone*) is the most important thing in life. Indeed, Chrysippus wrote one book entitled *Proofs that Pleasure is not the End-in-chief of Action* and another on *Proofs that Pleasure is not a Good*, i.e., pleasure is not intrinsically good at all let alone the supreme goal of life.

from:



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Stoics advocate more "joy" instead of "pleasure" (only for the wise attainable according to the Stoics), what was there the greek term ? For pleasure it is "hedone".