

As To The Three Legs Of The Canon (Sensations, Feelings, Anticipations) Is it Possible to Experience (Receive Data?) From One Without The Others?

Post by "Cassius" of February 8, 2023 at 8:53 AM

I think we have hinted at this in the discussion already, but we need to confront it directly:

I think everyone understands that the intent of [PD02](#) is to provide a complete and total immunity defense to fear of pain after death (or hope for reward after death).

If that is accepted, then whatever word(s) are being used by Epicurus to refer to "sense" are intended to be global and sweeping, and not leave open the possibility that we can feel pain or pleasure after those "senses" are gone. Agreed?

[Don](#) or others, any thoughts on how the wording used in [PD02](#) helps us with this question of whether pain and pleasure can be experienced separately and apart from "the senses"?

Principal Doctrine 2

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Ὁ θάνατος οὐδὲν πρὸς ἡμᾶς· τὸ γὰρ διαλυθὲν ἀναισθητεῖ· τὸ δ' ἀναισθητοῦν οὐδὲν πρὸς ἡμᾶς. 

→ Death (is) nothing to us → because what has been dissolved feels nothing → while what feels nothing (is) nothing to us

Translation

Death is nothing to us, because a body that has been dispersed into **elements** experiences no **sensations**, and the absence of sensation is nothing to us.

Is it not safe to presume that (just like with "atoms") Epicurus might not be using the same words we would use today (we might use "consciousness" or "experience" or "feeling" (in a general sense)), but that he is intending to include within a broad designation of "feeling" every possible experience of the mind and body? Should we consider that this may in part the use of the "images," as a theory of how the brain processes thoughts physically so that "touch" is not limited to the outer skin?