

# **Episode 168 - "Epicurus And His Philosophy" Part 21**

## **- Chapter 10 - The New Freedom 01**

**Post by "Cassius" of April 5, 2023 at 6:08 AM**

While editing this episode I want to highlight Don's comment to the effect that the words "choosing and avoiding" probably do not adequately convey the "action" quality of what is being discussed. In English, both words (and maybe particularly "avoiding") carry a subtle implication of a sort of detached or hesitant quality. Don used the example that avoiding sounds mundane, as in avoiding a mud puddle. Another example that comes to my mind is that it sounds like someone walking slowly past a buffet of food daintily picking an olive here or avoiding a cheese there.

Don makes the point that these words probably carry in the Greek a more intense quality - like "fleeing" or even "rejecting" and that he prefers "choose and reject" to 'choose and avoid.'

I am not sure I really picked up this point in the times that Don has brought it up in the past but hearing the point spoken was more effective in causing me to appreciate it, and it definitely sounds right to me. There's an intensity to Epicurus that can be easy to miss given the associations of the word "pleasure" and I think Don is clearly right.