

Letter to Menoikeus translation by Peter Saint-Andre

Post by "Don" of May 30, 2023 at 6:58 PM

FYI

Original text

Ὅταν οὖν λέγωμεν ἡδονὴν τέλος ὑπάρχειν, οὐ τὰς τῶν ἀσώτων ἡδονὰς καὶ τὰς ἐν ἀπολαύσει
κειμένας λέγομεν,

Saint-Andre

131: So when we say that pleasure is the goal, we do not mean the pleasures of decadent
people or the enjoyment of sleep, ...

Don

131: Therefore, whenever we say repeatedly that "pleasure is the τέλος," we do not say the
pleasure of those who are prodigal [and those who are lying about in enjoyment] like those who
are ignorant, those who don't agree with us, or those who believe wrongly; [NOTE: Still working
on mine!]

Mensch

[...] But when we say that pleasure is our goal, we do not mean the pleasures of the prodigal or
the self-indulgent, as the ignorant think, or those who disagree with or misinterpret our views.
[...] (page 535)

Hicks

"When we say, then, that pleasure is the end and aim, we do not mean the pleasures of the
prodigal or the pleasures of sensuality, as we are understood to do by some through ignorance,
prejudice, or wilful misrepresentation.

Elli

"So when we say that pleasure is the end of life, we are not speaking of the pleasures of the
profligates and those in the enjoyment (that lie out of limits).

Epicurus Wiki

"we do not mean the pleasure of debauchery or sensuality,"

Bailey

"When, therefore, we maintain that pleasure is the end, we do not mean the pleasures of profligates and those that consist in sensuality,"

When we say that pleasure is the goal, we are not talking about the pleasure of profligates or that which lies in sensuality, as some ignorant persons think, or else those who do not agree with us or have followed our argument

badly; rather, it is freedom from bodily pain and mental anguish ([source](#))

So when we say that pleasure is the goal we do not mean the pleasures of the profligate or the pleasures of consumption, as some believe, either from ignorance and disagreement or from deliberate misinterpretation, ([source](#))

Pamela Gordon

[So whenever we say that pleasure is the telos [the fulfillment or end], we do not

mean the pleasures of degenerates and pleasures that consist of physical enjoyment, as some assume (out of ignorance and because they disagree, or because they misconstrue our meaning), but we mean the absence of pain in the body and the absence of distress in the spirit.]