

VS78 - Alternative Translation

Post by “Don” of July 4, 2023 at 12:12 PM

* ὁ γενναῖος περὶ σοφίαν καὶ φιλίαν μάλιστα γίγνεται, ὧν τὸ μὲν ἔστι νοητον ἀγαθόν, τὸ δὲ ἀθάνατον.

An alternative translation: "One who is noble in mind most of all depends upon wisdom and friendship — one is a good perceptible to the mind, thinkable, and imaginable; the other, everlasting and perpetual."

I would take that that friendship is so important, one can barely conceive of its importance.

γενναῖος "noble in mind, high-minded" From γέννα (génna, "descent, birth, origin") + -ιος (-ios). Compare ἀγενής (agenḗs "of no family, ignoble, mean, cowardly, vile"). Think of the name Eugene "well-born, noble"

σοφίαν (sophian "skill in matters of common life. sound judgement, intelligence, practical wisdom") Remember this is also the exact element in philosophy "φιλοσοφία".

[Henry George Liddell, Robert Scott, A Greek-English Lexicon, σοφία](#)

γίγνεται has a number of connotations including: γ. παρά τι *to depend upon...*

[Henry George Liddell, Robert Scott, A Greek-English Lexicon, γίγνομαι](#)

νοητος

[Henry George Liddell, Robert Scott, A Greek-English Lexicon, νο-ητός](#)

αθάνατος

[Henry George Liddell, Robert Scott, A Greek-English Lexicon, ἀθάνατος](#)