

# Would You Rather Live For A Week As (1) Epicurus During the Last Week of His Life or (2) An Anonymous Shepherd Laying In The Grass In The Summertime With No Pain At All?

Post by "Cassius" of September 8, 2023 at 10:35 PM

## [Quote from Onenski](#)

I mean, possibly there's not a specific and universal activity or object to pursue that brings pleasure in general, but there's a way to do it or to get it: the virtuous one.

I think most all of us will agree on that. Even eating ice cream is not guaranteed pleasureable, if you have just eaten a gallon and are stuffed.

## [Quote from Onenski](#)

I really hope this answer have some sense, because I'm not sure if I understood completely the question in dispute.

I think the question is more addressed to this: "Are all pleasures really interchangeable to a person, or or some pleasures more to be chosen than others?" Maybe the answer is obviously "Yes, some are to be chosen before others," but what is the best way to explain that to yourself, or to (for example) your child.

Cicero and others seem to infer that all true Epicureans will choose to spend their lives laying on the beach without a thought to (for example) a life as an artist or a scientist or a policeman or fireman.

Is Cicero correct? If not, why not, and how do you explain the Epicurean analysis of choosing some pleasures over others in Epicurean terms without reference to nobility or other outside standards? Is the only thing that can be said is "choose the most pleasant?"