

Episode 216 - Cicero's On Ends - Book Two - Part 23 - Why Does Epicurus Say Length Of Time Does Not Contribute To Pleasure?

Post by "Godfrey" of February 28, 2024 at 7:03 PM

[PD19](#). *Finite time and infinite time contain the same amount of joy, if its limits are measured out through reasoning.*

It's critical to note that [PD19](#) makes no reference to a life, only to time and to joy. (At least in English: greater minds than mine can confirm that that's the case in the Greek.) The reasoning mentioned is to come to the understanding that a life has a limit in time, which separates it from the infinite. There's nothing more to it than that.

In order to come to the Ciceronian interpretation you would have to add in "a life," or replace time with life: "A finite life and an infinite life contain the same amount of joy...." This isn't what Epicurus was saying at all.