

## **Episode 218 Cicero's On Ends - Book Two - Part 25 - Can The Epicurean Not Distinguish Between Greater and Lesser Pleasures and Pains?**

**Post by "Cassius" of March 15, 2024 at 4:38 PM**

To follow up on the last comment I made, I am convinced that [PD03](#) and similar statements about managing pain have to be read as "over a long period of time" and maybe even "permanently."

It's important to conclude that pleasure can predominate over pain continuously, but we have to recognize that we sometimes choose pain when it leads to greater pleasure or less pain down the road, so sometimes clearly we are going to experience pain that we can't wish away by mental focus on happier thoughts.

One implication of observing that *pains, if any befall him, have never power enough to prevent the wise man from finding more reasons for joy than for vexation*, is that you have to know that if you truly do run into some insurmountable awful and problem that is beyond your ability to manage, then you have to know that you can escape the grip of that problem in order to truly be confident and without fear of the future.