

Papyrus Oxyrhynchus 215

Post by “Bryan” of May 17, 2024 at 1:25 PM

Apropos to the Anselm discussion:

[P.Oxy. 2.215, col. 1, lines 11-16] And you, Sir, should consider it a great blessing to have rightly grasped the best of all that exists which we are able to conceive – and you should marvel at this understanding (διάληψιν) and you should revere it with freedom from fear.

[Chilton] You, my friend, must know that the most blessed gift is to have a clear perception of things; that is absolutely the best thing that we can conceive of here below. Admire this clear apprehension of the spirit, revere this divine gift.

[Grenfell] But do you, sir, consider that the most blessed state lies in the formation of a just conception concerning the best thing that we can possibly imagine to exist; and reverence and worship this idea.

[col. 1, lines 11-16] σὺ [δ', ὦ] ἄνθρωπε, μακαριώ[τα]τον μὲν τι νόμιζε τὸ [διε]ίληφέναι καλῶς ὃ τὸ [παν]άριστον ἐν τοῖς οὖσι [δια]γοηθῆναι δυνάμε[θα], καὶ θ[α]ύμαζε ταύτην [τῆ]ν δι[ι]άληψιν καὶ σέβου [ἀδ]ε[ί]α τοῦτο.

Taking διανοηθῆναι in the middle voice, but a passive construction is also possible (with no real change in meaning).