

Would Epicurus say: "Infinite Time contains no more pain than limited time when the limit of pain is measured by reason?"

Post by "Eikadistes" of July 21, 2024 at 6:54 PM

[Quote from Godfrey](#)

So if I'm reading correctly @Twentier , you're saying that "amount" isn't a part of the original Greek? Am I understanding that correctly?

Within the context of Userner/Arrighetti's renderings, I believe that is correct. I do not find an ancient Greek noun that corresponds with our noun "amount". The word being employed ἴσην (ísēn) is an adjective meaning "equal" or "the same as". The noun that the adjective is modifying is "pleasure", so adding a second noun to that clause (in my opinion) is semantically unnecessary.

Though, again, I don't mean to make too big of a deal out of it. It's mostly stylistic.

[Quote from Cassius](#)

the thread topic question, as to substituting "pain" in the place of "pleasure,"

[Cassius](#) this isn't clear. Your post quotes the Doxa in its entirety: "**Would Epicurus say: 'Infinite Time contains no more pain than limited time when the limit of pain is measured by reason?'**"

[Quote from Cassius](#)

but if you could also comment on whether it works to substitute pain, that would be good too.

My answer therefore changes from "No-ish" to a confident "**No**". "No more pain" is not the same as "continuous pleasure" because "no more pain" also includes "death", and that's no good. This is where we dodge the Cyrenaics accusation that our goal in life is that of a corpse.