

Epicurean versus deceptive (“modern”) Stoic decision making

Post by “Cassius” of August 13, 2024 at 7:21 PM

[Quote from Godfrey](#)

The kitchen example falls apart because there is only one "thing:" food. Absence of food leaves nothing. Absence of pain involves two "things:" pain and pleasure. So if there is no pain there is pure pleasure.

Yes that's a good point to make about any hypothetical in this arena. The Epicurean texts are very clear that there are only two feelings, pleasure and pain, and when you don't have one you have the other. Any hypothetical that seeks to be a true analogy has to stipulate that there are only two classes of items possible, and that if you don't have items from class1 then you by definition have items from class2, and vice versa.