

# **Episode 267 - Virtue Is Not Absolute Or An End In Itself - All Good And Evil Consists In Sensation.**

**Post by "Cassius" of February 6, 2025 at 8:27 AM**

Yes it is an interesting take, and well written, focused more on the military aspect of Rome than you usually see. He's more negative on the military aspect than I would be, but those issues are certainly debatable. Someone is going to feel a lot differently about Rome's military depending on whether they are Roman or Carthaginian.

I suspect that going too far in trying to take social positions ends up being more of a debate about Greco Roman politics than about philosophy. That's one reason I hesitate to weigh in on the dispute between Julius Caesar and Cassius Longinus. There seem to have been Epicureans on both sides of the civil war, and I am not sure which side I would take personally - probably that's another example of how contextual so many issues are. There seem to be Epicurean texts saying kingship *can* be ok and democracy not so ok.

It's all well and good to focus on local community welfare when you have a stable society, but when the Persians are on the march to Greece, or some Ghengis Khan or fundamentalist religion tries to conquer your society by force, then it's nice to have a viable military.

Good food for thought about the contextual nature of Virtue.