

# Episode 270 - Life Is Desirable, But Unlimited Time Contains No Greater Pleasure Than Limited Time

Post by "Don" of February 22, 2025 at 11:52 AM

## [Quote from Cassius](#)

Well, if so, we need an analysis of that decision which does not end with "duration of time makes NO difference" - because I can certainly tell the difference between a minute and a year. And not simply because I am afraid of opportunities lost.

Of course, duration *in this life* matters. Epicurus talks about a life *filled* with pleasure. That's both physically and temporally. We live akin to the gods when we live in pleasure.

My grievance (?) is with those who only talk about the loss of pleasure *if* or *when* one dies. We, the living, have NO idea what a life un-lived had in store for the person who died. Chances are it wouldn't have been all wine and roses. Our own lives have some pain, but we're living. *Life is meant to be lived, as pleasurable as possible*. What about the pain the person who died would have experienced? What about the potential misfortunes? Focusing on the "what might have" is pointless. Epicurean philosophy stresses that the bite of pain of someone dying is real. But the philosophy also says not to dwell on the loss but to celebrate and remember the life.

Let's be honest though. For the person who dies, death is a loss *of life*. That's it. You're done. That is the end of all sensation and feeling and experience. But I still don't see how we can say *what* they've missed or *what* they potentially could have experienced. Would their life have been overwhelming pain within a day of their actual death date? Would they have died a day later? A week? Ten years? There is no way to know. What we do know is that we're mortal and that is never going to change. I don't believe we'll ever be able to upload ourselves nor do I think that would be preferable to actually dying.