

Pleasure as a guide

Post by "Cassius" of March 3, 2025 at 2:38 PM

Thank you for the post EyalA - there are a number of us here who like Nietzsche, including me.

Also, I just posted a "Welcome" thread for you. Please introduce yourself over there in that thread.

As to Nietzsche, you're probably aware of N's anti-stoic views, and his sometimes good things to say about Epicurus, as in Antichrist, so it's a complex subject.

I admire a lot of what Nietzsche had to say, but in my view he was wrong to ultimately dismiss Epicurus on what we might call "absence of pain" grounds. If I thought that Epicurus was guilty of what Nietzsche apparently considered him to be guilty of, I too would never have stayed with Epicurus. Obviously Nietzsche was a brilliant guy, and no doubt smarter than me by a lot, but I don't think he worked as hard as he should have to pursue the wider meaning of 'pleasure' in the Epicurean worldview. It's in doing that where I think that N. and Epicurus can be reconciled and brought into much closer harmony than the initial chatgpt response would indicate.

Glad to have you with us, as I think an appreciation of Nietzsche goes a long way toward appreciating Epicurus' "this-worldly" focus.