

Episode 288 - TD18 - Tusculan Disputations Part 3 - "Will The Wise Man Feel Grief Or Other Strong Emotions?"

Post by "Don" of July 4, 2025 at 8:27 AM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

I agree Don....

[Quote from Don](#)

Cicero seems to equate pathē with παραχή (tarakhē) "disturbance of mind; disease" which is the opposite of ἀταραξία (a-taraksia) "lack of disturbance."

Which is not to say that Cicero was wrong as to the general usage of the term, if indeed that is what the other philosophers besides Epicurus were doing. I gather Cicero was correct about that, unless there is some reason in other literature to disbelieve him (?)

Agreed. As [Joshua](#) pointed out in the episode, there are two general connotations for that word. Cicero doesn't like Epicurus' expansive use of the word pleasure (ἡδονή hēdonē) as pathē and so just defaults to his (ie, Cicero's) preferred connotation of pathē from πάθος (páthos "pain, suffering") instead of the general more basic sense from πάσχω, "I feel".