

Episode 293 - TD23 - Cicero Accuses Epicurus Of Evasion In Calling "Absence of Pain" A "Pleasure"

Post by "Rolf" of August 9, 2025 at 3:12 PM

Quote

And Epicurus is telling you, don't use these false analogies and false ideals of virtue as being the remedy for pain. Just look at it realistically and realize that life has both pains and pleasures, and it is the pleasures that make life worthwhile. It is not your dreaming up some ideal system of virtue that makes life worthwhile. It is what nature gave you through pleasure that makes life worthwhile.

I'm particularly fond of the way you phrased this, Cassius. Too many people, myself included, fall into the trap of "dreaming up ideal systems of virtue" in order to make their lives feel worthwhile. And yet, the thing that really does make our lives worthwhile, pleasure, is right in front of our faces the whole time!