

Episode 295 - Plutarch's Absurd Interpretation of Epicurean Absence of Pain

Post by “Don” of August 16, 2025 at 1:09 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

13. 13 Epicurus was particularly hypocritical in disdaining the discussion or study of music and poetry, since he himself said that the wise man will love the music of public events.

It seems to me, the epicureans could take pleasure in the performance and not need to listen to critical analysis or music theory. The Epicureans right from Epicurus took pleasure in the festivals, including music and drama as I remember. Plutarch seems to be saying it's more pleasurable to critique and analyze? Hmmm, I don't think I agree with that.

On a separate note: In Against Colotes, Plutarch writes

Quote

And they write in express terms: 'We are to treat how a man may best keep and preserve the end of Nature, and how he may from the very beginning avoid entering of his own free will and voluntarily upon offices of magistracy, and government over the people.' And yet again, these other words are theirs: 'There is no need at all that a man should tire out his mind and body to preserve the Greeks, and to obtain from them a crown of wisdom; but to eat and drink well, O Timocrates, without prejudicing, but rather pleasing the flesh.'

This goes to the *lathe biosas* issue, but putting here for further comment later so I don't lose it.