

Episode 310 - TD38 - Neither Happiness Nor Virtue Are Binary States

Post by "Cassius" of December 4, 2025 at 9:27 AM

Notes during editing:

I set up a separate thread for the issue of [Happiness not requiring absolute absence of pain](#), and I'm going to name this episode something to the effect that Epicurus does not consider Happiness to be a binary state (where the only two options are happiness and unhappiness).

That raises something that Joshua points out, however: Epicurus does treat pain and pleasure as a binary state - that you are either feeling one or the other but not both at the same time and not an in-between state.

So we'll want to discuss: what's the difference between "happiness / unhappiness" and "pleasure/pain?"