

Klavan's "Gateway To Epicureanism" (Note: The Title Is Part Of A "Gateway" Series - The Author Himself Is Strongly Anti-Epicurean)

Post by "Brandnoz" of April 18, 2026 at 11:13 AM

I had a question. This part from Thomas Jefferson on the virtues of Epicurus, did he just come up with this? I haven't seen them anywhere else. It seems Epicurus was bigger on a pleasant life cannot be lived without the virtues, but we don't live for the virtues like the Stoics.

Virtue consists in: 1. Prudence. 2. Temperance. 3. Fortitude. 4. Justice
to which are opposed: 1. Folly. 2. Desire. 3. Fear. 4. Deceit.

I'm guessing these would be seen as inaccurate? I know Epicurus said that prudence can be more important than philosophy, but Temperance and Justice seem like borrowings from Stoicism. It seems weird that Jefferson liked Epictetus and Epicurus and I find lately that more people I know prefer Epictetus out of the Stoics, but they seem to be contradictory.