

Welcome ReiWolfWoman!

Post by “ReiWolfWoman” of April 20, 2026 at 5:12 PM

I'm reading a book called *Jane Austen's Philosophy of Virtues*. Emsley writes, "Socrates calls this kind of adherence to principle illusory, and suggests that it is actually a kind of self-indulgence that forces one to be temperate for the sake of later pleasure...afraid of losing other pleasures...is practical, and has to do with action. The philosopher's virtue has to do with the heart and mind, with transcending and mastering fear and desire" (24). (This also reminds me of the stoic approach to pain.) What do you all think Epicurus would say to this accusation? Is there an argument to be made that virtues of heart and mind are simply an extension of the pleasure analysis with fear and desire, masquerading as a higher good? Or perhaps an argument to be made that Epicurus's own philosophy does value a higher good in its definition of pleasure, primacy of friendship and his own time spent in self-awareness and philosophical analysis? Am I asking an obvious question?