

## PD 25 meaning? by Woolf (2004)

Post by "Don" of May 11, 2026 at 7:12 AM

### [Quote from Godfrey](#)

everyone pursues nature's end

I would argue that everyone pursues what they believe will bring them pleasure, will provide happiness. It's just that sometimes - often - we fool ourselves into pursuing those things that will not in reality bring pleasure in the long run.

### [Quote from Godfrey](#)

I for one spent years pursuing my "duty", and all it gave me was a life of misery.

In reference to this, why did you pursue "duty"? If you really drill down honestly, I would suggest that if you keep asking yourself "why did I do that?" and keep asking it at every step, you may eventually get to something like "because if I didn't do it, it would have caused me pain. If I *hadn't* 'done my duty' I would have felt guilt and other painful feelings."

I do not want this to seem combative. I've done this to decisions of my own and have come to similar conclusions.

### [Quote from Godfrey](#)

I would say that the consequences of using reason to override nature's end in all likelihood will be an abundance of pain.

That is very well said, and I agree with that! It strikes me as almost a textbook definition of following an empty desire.

### [Quote from Godfrey](#)

Being unaware of nature's end may lead to the same result.

I think we as humans can rationalize almost any action, but we can't escape that we pursue pleasure and flee pain. The problem is few of us pursue pleasure well or that we try to fool ourselves into what the best path to pleasure and well-being is.

### [Quote from Godfrey](#)

To me, Epicurus is saying to "walk the talk."

I don't disagree with that. The talk is going to reinforce the walk, and vice versa.