

What Would Epicurus Say To Someone Who Said To Him That The Value of Being Dead and Being Alive Are Equal?

Post by "Todd" of June 24, 2026 at 8:10 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

I could defend that being a related question in the sense that if you think life is not worth living in general then you're not likely to think it's a good idea to bring more children into the world.

That is probably true.

My point was more that "good" or "bad" have to be attached to concrete choices, not abstractions. Life is good (necessary) for experiencing pleasure. Death is bad for that, but it might be good if you only care about avoiding pain. You always have to ask "good or bad *for what*".

In that sense, they are very different questions and a person could both prefer to live and not to have children without contradicting himself.