

# Remember To Join Us For A Skype Call This Sunday 9/1 If You Can!

Post by "Cassius" of August 30, 2019 at 4:38 PM

As we in the USA start a long holiday weekend, please remember to join us if you can Sunday morning at 11 AM for a skype conference call to discuss Epicurean philosophy. Our topic will be chapter 12 of Norman DeWitt's "Epicurus and His Philosophy," but Julie has prepared a great outline so even if you have not read the book you'll easily be able to follow along. A link to the conference will be posted later this weekend but all you need is a working Skype connection on your desktop or phone. Don't worry about video - this will be audio only.

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## A SUMMARY OF CHAPTER XII: THE NEW HEDONISM FROM EPICURUS & HIS PHILOSOPHY BY NORMAN WENTWORTH DEWITT

Much of what is discussed here is stated by Epicurus in the middle section of his Letter to Menoeceus. I recommend having a copy of the letter nearby to refer to while reading this summary. The letter to Menoeceus, principle doctrines, and the Vatican sayings can all be found on [NewEpicurean.com](http://NewEpicurean.com).

### THE "SUMMUM BONUM" FALLACY

It is often misunderstood that Epicurus taught that pleasure was the greatest good. What Epicurus really taught was that life itself is the greatest good and that pleasure is the telos. Telos means end as in fulfillment or culmination rather than termination. DeWitt explains that this misunderstanding stems from limitations of the Latin language. Latin did not have a word that corresponds to telos and thus summum bonum was used to describe the role of pleasure. Summum bonum means the chief good.

Here's the full outline: [NewHedonism\\_v3.pdf](#)