

Glossary - What is the Epicurean Definition of "Pleasure?"

Post by "Cassius" of January 16, 2020 at 7:31 AM

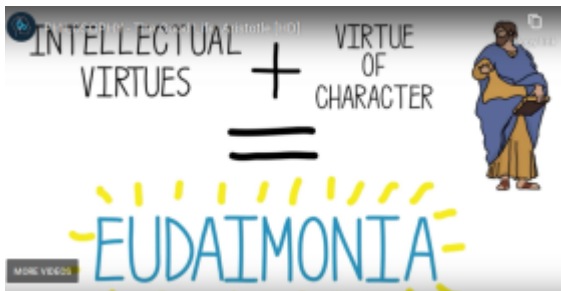
Elli correct me if I am wrong but you are discussing the general Greek background meaning of the word correct? In specific philosophies my observation is that eudaemonia as a term is most frequently associated today with Aristotle rather than Epicurus, and the Aristotelian definition is generally considered to be that stated in the graphic below.

I note that in the opening of that video the lecturer says that the argument against pleasure (he says bodily pleasure) is that it is not "peculiarly associated with human beings" and that a life of pleasure is fit only for "cattle."

That's the Ciceronian argument cited above - as if that were a reason to deny pleasure the guidship of life, simply because that's what all other living things do!

and so then of course what separates us from other animals according the video/Aristotle? REASON!

Thus pleasure is displaced as the goal to be replaced with "reason."



And thus we have the ambiguity and the dispute about the meaning of the word "happiness" which means one thing to an Aristotelian and something entirely different to an Epicurean:

