

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

Post by "Elli" of January 19, 2020 at 5:31 AM

The final dialogue from the work "[Philebus](#) on pleasure" by the preacher Plato.

Socrates. The claims both of pleasure and mind to be the absolute good have been entirely disproven in this argument because they are both wanting in self-sufficiency and also inadequacy and perfection.

Protarchus. Most true.

Socrates. But, though they must both resign in favor of another, the mind is ten thousand times nearer and more akin to the nature of the conqueror than pleasure.

Protarchus. Certainly.

Socrates. Pleasure is the last and lowest of goods, and not first, even if asserted to be so by all the animals in the world. And, according to the judgment which has now been given, pleasure will rank fifth.

Protarchus. True.

Socrates. But not first; no, not even if all the oxen and horses and animals in the world by their pursuit of enjoyment proclaim her to be so;—although the many trusting in them, as diviners trust in birds, determine that pleasures make up the good of life, and deem the lusts of animals to be better witnesses than the inspirations of divine philosophy.

Protarchus. And now, Socrates, we tell you that the truth of what you have been saying is approved by the judgment of all of us.

Socrates. And will you let me go?

Protarchus. There is a little which yet remains, and I will remind you of it, for I am sure that you will not be the first to go away from an argument.

With the ending paragraph, and after that awful "discussion" (in which there is Plato who is the same person that is asking and the same one that is responding) in these dialogues as they proceed that are based on his awful methodology of dialectics i.e. endless definitions with words, connecting words with schemata, numbers and all that sort of abstractions, separation issues in parts and parts and parts, searching for something as absolute, perfect, objective, eternal and unmoved (for the devious purpose for proving the existence of soul and god actually)...in this ending paragraph, we realize that Protarchus did not remain pleased and

satisfied. Of course, as I said Protarchus is Plato who has never been satisfied and pleased, but why ? Because he was "**anerastos**" (keep in mind this tiny greek word) which means he was never capable to love anyone and to be loved by anyone in the reality of life. This is the fact, and everything else is opinion. 😊