

The Neglect of Metrodorus' Economics

Post by "Cassius" of February 13, 2020 at 1:29 PM

Thanks Hiram. THIS statement from that article is **RIDICULOUS**, which is why we need to process this material and not accept the existing discussions at face value. And more than that, we have to keep in mind that the majority of such articles are statistically going to be written expressing this kind of ridiculous opinion. Ridiculous, of course, unless we are going to accept that Epicurus was a total hypocrite by amassing the slaves and wealth that he held at the time

Overall, Epicurus strongly recommends that one seek only the bare necessities of life in stating that "poverty limited by nature is great wealth, but limitless wealth is great poverty" (SV 25: Ἡ πενία μετρουμένη τῷ τῆς φύσεως τέλει μέγας ἐστὶ πλοῦτος· πλοῦτος δὲ μὴ ὀριζόμενος μεγάλη ἐστὶ πενία). As a defender of poverty rather than penury, Epicurus' approach to wealth lies in between that of the Cynics, who reject it outright, and the Stoics, who view its acquisition as morally obligatory since it is a "preferred indifferent" (cf. *SVF* 1.190–96), as Cicero explains in *On Duties* 2.87: *res autem familiaris quaeri debet iis rebus a quibus abest turpitudine, conservari autem*