

The Neglect of Metrodorus' Economics

Post by "Cassius" of February 16, 2020 at 7:50 PM

From the letter to Menoecus, I think these are examples of the focus on PRUDENCE rather than "moderation": (I should have remembered these immediately! duh)

Yet by a scale of comparison and by the consideration of advantages and disadvantages we must form our judgment on all these matters. For the good on certain occasions we treat as bad, and conversely the bad as good.

For it is not continuous drinkings and revelings, nor the satisfaction of lusts, nor the enjoyment of fish and other luxuries of the wealthy table, which produce a pleasant life, **but sober reasoning, searching out** the motives for all choice and avoidance, and **banishing mere opinions**, to which are due the greatest disturbance of the spirit.

Of all this the beginning and the greatest good is **prudence**.

Wherefore **prudence** is a more precious thing even than philosophy: for from **prudence** are sprung all the other virtues, and it teaches us that it is not possible to live pleasantly without living prudently and honourably and justly, (nor, again, to live a life of prudence, honour, and justice) without living pleasantly.