

# The Neglect of Metrodorus' Economics

Post by "Hiram" of February 17, 2020 at 3:44 PM

[Quote from Mike Anyayahan](#)

Hmmm...how do you guys interpret VS 25? It says "Poverty, if measured by the natural purpose of life, is great wealth; but wealth, IF NOT LIMITED, is great poverty."

Here, we believe it was Epicurus who said it. Did Metrodorus contradict Epicurus if wealth is preferable to poverty?

According to this, Epicurus articulated a "defense of poverty" while criticizing Empedocles (who in one poem personified Poverty as constantly in the company of a poor man when he ate, and even accompanying him to his funeral)

[https://www.academia.edu/31634534/Philo...er\\_and\\_Epicurus](https://www.academia.edu/31634534/Philo...er_and_Epicurus)

In pages 116-117 (and I think this is mentioned afterwards) it says that Epicurus appeared before Leostratus and gives a teaching on wealth that Philodemus appears to be quoting, and here he attributes to Epicurus the teaching that there is a distinction between natural wealth that is easy to acquire and empty wealth which is not. It's possible that this is the context in which VS 25 may have been given. Either way it should be related to the PDs and VSs.