

# Episode Thirty - Only A Limited Number of Combinations of Atoms Is Possible

Post by "Godfrey" of August 8, 2020 at 10:49 PM

Looking again at my statement, it's actually circular in that the pursuit of something is guided by the experience of that thing. I think it's better stated as "the pursuit of desire fulfillment is guided by the experience of pleasure," and this could be an extremely critical point.

It's important to separate the faculty from the action, and if I'm not mistaken this is exactly what Epicurus is doing when read carefully. I've tended to conflate pleasure and desire. However he ranks desires (not pleasures) into the categories of natural and necessary, natural and not necessary, and vain. Pleasure itself (the faculty) is uniformly good. (I'm writing without referring to the texts so I could be putting words in his mouth, but this separation is how I've been thinking about the philosophy lately. I'm not sure if the Greek backs this up or not 🤔. Or maybe it's obvious and I'm just a tad dull. 😄)