

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

Post by "Don" of August 8, 2020 at 11:11 PM

I think you're onto something there, [Godfrey](#) . I like where you going if I follow you correctly. I also like that you're making a clear distinction between the faculty of the Feelings (pleasure and pain) and the desires. The Feelings are part of the Canon, how we decide what actions to take, i.e., in what desires to pursue and what to reject. The goal or telos is the living of a pleasurable life.

There's only one edit I'd suggest to your statement:

Quote

"the pursuit of desire fulfillment is guided by the experience of pleasure **and pain**,"

I sometimes forget that the "Feelings are **two**: pleasure and pain." Epicurus sees value in both pleasure and pain as criteria by which we make our choices and rejections. We should pursue a sustained pleasurable life as the goal but use the Feelings of both pleasure and pain (along with the Anticipations and Senses) to make the choices that will result in that goal.