

Elena Nicoli - An Excellent Presentation On Epicurean Pleasure

Post by “Hiram” of April 18, 2018 at 10:45 AM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

All this sounds fine, but why should I accept Epicurus' opinion that a simple life is all I should want out of life?

1. Haven't we always been taught that nothing good comes easily? ...
2. Did I hear you say that we should never want power? ...
3. ...how much time do I need to satisfy your definition of a pleasurable life? Can I take enough pain pills ...

Many of these questions are easily addressed if we take up Philodemus' way of teaching in terms of "natural measure of" wealth, etc. I applied this to the idea of a natural measure of community, and some commentators of Philodemus have argued that this natural measure is based on what is natural and necessary. Once THAT measure of that is secured, the rest is variation in pleasure.

We could argue that there's also a NATURAL measure of power (over one's space, security, and business) that one must secure if one wants self-sufficiency.