

READING 41 Cicero writes for his Roman countrymen about the different Greek schools of philosophy. Here he is talking about the philosopher Epicurus' belief that the Greatest (highest) Good in life is living pleasantly. Epicurus defined pleasure (*voluptās*) as the avoidance of pain (*dolor*).

Fatendum est summum esse bonum iucundē vivere. Id, quī in unā virtūte pōnunt et **splendōre** nōminis captī, quid nātūra postulet nōn intellegunt, **errōre** maximō, sī Epicūrum audire voluerint, liberābuntur. istae enim vestrae eximiae pulchraeque virtūtēs nisi voluptātem efficerent, quis eās aut **laudābilēs** aut expetendās [esse] arbitrārētur? Ut¹ enim medicōrum **scientiam** nōn ipsius artis, sed bonae valetūdinis causā probāmus, et gubernātōris ars, quia bene nāvīgandī ratiōnem habet, **ūtilitāte**, nōn arte laudātur, sīc sapientia, quae ars vīvendī putanda est, nōn expeterētur, sī nihil efficeret; nunc expetitur, quod est tamquam artifex conquīrendae et comparandae voluptātis. nam cum **ignōrātiōne** rerum bonārum et malārum māximē hominum vīta **vexētur**, ob eumque errōrem et voluptātibus māximīs saepe prīventur et dūrissimīs animī dolōribus torqueantur, sapientia est adhibenda, quae et **terrōribus** cupiditātibusque dētractīs et omnium **falsārum opīniōnum** temeritāte dēreptā certissimam sē nōbīs ducem praebeat ad voluptātem.

Vocabulary:

fateor, -ērī	to admit, accept as true	artifex, -icis <i>m.</i>	maker, author
iūcundē (adv.)	agreeably, pleasantly	conquīrō, -ere	to search for
Id	<i>refers to iūcundē vīvere</i>	comparō, -āre	to acquire
splendor, -ōris <i>m.</i>	splendor	ignōrātiō, -iōnis <i>f.</i>	ignorance
error, -ōris <i>m.</i>	error (abl. separation)	vexō, -āre	to trouble, upset
Epicūrus, -ī <i>m.</i>	Epicurus	prīvō, -āre	to deprive (of) (+ abl. separation)
iste, ista, istud	that	torqueō, -ēre	to twist; torment
eximius, -a, -um	fine, excellent	adhibeō, -ēre	to use
laudābilis, -e	worthy of praise	terror, -ōris <i>m.</i>	fear
expetō, -ere	to seek out, desire	dētrahō, -ere	to remove
medicus, -ī <i>m.</i>	doctor	falsus, -a, -um	false
scientia, -ae <i>f.</i>	knowledge, skill	opiniō, -iōnis <i>f.</i>	opinion, belief
valetūdō, -inis <i>f.</i>	health	temeritās, -tātis <i>f.</i>	recklessness
gubernātor, -ōris <i>m.</i>	pilot, navigator	dēripiō, -ere, -uī,	to remove
ūtilitās, -tātis <i>f.</i>	utility, usefulness (abl. cause)		-reptus