

THE ETHICS OF PLATO'S *REPUBLIC* : FIVE LECTURES

Dunn, J. & *Plato: Volume I* (1997) = *PI*

Harris, I. (eds) *Plato: Volume II* (1997) = *PII*

Irwin, T. *Plato's Ethics* (1995) = *PE*

Joseph, H.W.B. *Essays in Ancient and Modern Philosophy* (1935) = *EAMP*

Kraut, R. *Plato's Republic: Critical Essays* (1997) = *PRCE*

Price, A.W. 'Plato: ethics and politics', in C.C.W. Taylor (ed) *From the Beginning to*

Plato (1997) = 'Pep'

1. METAETHICAL QUESTIONS

Gosling, J.C.B. 'Republic V: *ta polla kala*', *Phronesis* 1965

Burnyeat, M.F. 'Virtues in Action', in G. Vlastos (ed.) *The Philosophy of Socrates* (1971)

Irwin, T.H. *Plato's Moral Theory* (1977), ch. 2 § 2

Price, A.W. *Love and Friendship in Plato and Aristotle* (1989), app. 1

Irwin *PE*, ch. 10

Cf. ARISTOTLE *Nicomachean Ethics* I 6

Allan, D.J. 'Aristotle's criticism of Platonic doctrine concerning goodness & the good',

Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society 1963/4

Kosman, L.A. 'Predicating the good', *Phronesis* 1968

Flashar, H. 'The critique of Plato's theory of ideas in Aristotle's Ethics', in J. Barnes, M.

Schofield, R. Sorabji (eds) *Articles on Aristotle 2. Ethics and Politics*

1977)

Ackrill, J.L. 'Aristotle on "good" and the categories', in Barnes, Schofield, Sorabji (eds),

& his *Essays on Plato and Aristotle* (1997)

Santas, G.X. 'Aristotle's criticism of Plato's form of the good: ethics without

metaphysics?', *Philosophical Papers* 1989

How does Plato view the meaning of ethical (or aesthetic) terms? How does their application relate to that of non-evaluative descriptions?

2. IMMORALISM & AMORALISM

Joseph *EAMP*, ch. 2

Irwin *PE*, pp. 174-80

Everson, S. 'The incoherence of Thrasymachus', *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy*

1998

Chappell, T. 'Thrasymachus and definition', *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy* 2000

Allen, R.E. 'The speech of Glaucon in Plato's *Republic*', *Journal of the History of*

Philosophy 1987

Williams, B. *Shame and Necessity* (1993), pp. 98-9

Irwin *PE*, pp. 174-96

Price 'Pep', § 1

Williams, B. 'Plato against the immoralist', in O. Höffe (ed.) *Platon: Politeia* (1997)

Is Thraymachus's immoralist position coherent? Does Socrates do it justice?

How satisfactory is the amoralist grounding of morality that Glaucon puts to Socrates ?

3. ETHICS & DEPTH PSYCHOLOGY

Joseph *EAMP*, ch. 3

Kenny, A. 'Mental health in Plato's *Republic*', *Proceedings of the British Academy*

1969, & in his *The Anatomy of the Soul* (1973), & *PI*

Penner, T. 'Thought and desire in Plato', in G. Vlastos (ed.) *Plato II: Ethics, Politics, and Philosophy of Art and Religion* (1971)

Cooper, J. 'Plato's theory of human motivation', *History of Philosophy Quarterly* 1984,
& in his *Reason and Emotion* (1999), & *PII*

Moline, J. 'Plato on the complexity of the psyche', *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* 1978

Kahn, C.H. 'Plato's theory of desire', *Review of Metaphysics* 1987/8, & in *PII*

Woods, M. 'Plato's division of the soul', *Proceedings of the British Academy* 1987, & in *PII*

Price, A.W. 'Plato and Freud', in G. Gill (ed) *The Person and the Human Mind* (1990)

Penner, T. 'Plato and Davidson: parts of the soul & weakness of will', *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* sup. vol. 16 (1990)

Lear, J. 'Inside and outside the *Republic*', *Phronesis* 1992; & in *PRCE*, & his *Open Minded* (1998)

'Plato's politics of narcissism', in T. Irwin & M.C. Nussbaum (eds) *Virtue, Love & Form* (1994)

Bobonich, C. 'Akrasia and agency in Plato's *Laws* and *Republic*', *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* 1994

Irwin *PE*, ch. 13

Price, A.W. *Mental Conflict* (1995), ch. 2 §§ 4-7, 11

'Pep', §§ 2-3

What does Plato mean by a 'part' of the soul? Is a part of a soul a homunculus (mini-person)? Is Plato right, in his sense of 'part', to suppose that there are three parts?

What, in your view, is the relevance of psychology to ethics? Should a non-superficial ethics rest upon depth psychology?

4. EUDAIMONISM & ALTRUISM

Joseph *EAMP*, ch. 5

Kraut, R. 'Egoism, love, and political office in Plato', *Philosophical Review* 1973, & in *PI*

Price, A.W. *Love and Friendship in Plato and Aristotle* (1989), ch. 7 § 1

Mahoney, T.A. 'Do Plato's philosopher-rulers sacrifice self-interest to justice?', *Phronesis* 1992

Kraut, R. 'The defense of justice in Plato's *Republic*', in Kraut (ed) *The Cambridge*

Companion to Plato (1992)

‘Return to the cave: *Republic* 519-521’, *Proceedings of the Boston Area*

Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy 1992, & in *PII*

Irwin *PE*, ch. 18

Price ‘Pep’, §§ 4, 6

Price, A.W. ‘Friendship and politics’, *Tijdschrift voor Filosofie* 1999, § 2

Brown, E. ‘Justice and compulsion for Plato’s philosopher-rulers’, *Ancient Philosophy*

2000

What reasons do the inhabitants of Plato’s Utopia have to care for one another? Are these also valid for his philosopher-rulers?

5. MATHEMATICS & THE FORM OF THE GOOD

Cornford, F.M. ‘Mathematics and dialectic in the *Republic* VI-VII’, *Mind* 1932, & in R.E.

Allen (ed) *Studies in Plato’s Metaphysics* (1965)

Joseph, H.W.B. *Knowledge and the Good in Plato’s Republic* (1948)

Ross, W.D. *Plato’s Theory of Ideas* (1951), ch. 4

Gosling, J.C.B. *Plato* (1973), ch. 7

Guthrie, W.K.C. *A History of Greek Philosophy* vol. 5 (1978), ch. 8

Gaiser, K. ‘Plato’s enigmatic lecture "On the good"’, *Phronesis* 1980, & in *PII*

Santas, G.X. 'The form of the good in Plato's *Republic*', in J.P. Anton & A. Preuss

(eds) *Essays in Ancient Greek Philosophy* (1983)

Burnyeat, M.F. 'Platonism and mathematics: a prelude to discussion', in A. Graeser (ed)

Mathematics & Metaphysics in Aristotle (1987), § 10

Irwin *PE*, ch. 16

Price 'Pep', § 7

Ferber, R. 'Did Plato ever reply to those critics, who reproached him for "the emptiness

of the Platonic idea or form of the Good"', in E. Ostenfeld (ed.) *Essays on*

Plato's Republic (1998)

Burnyeat, M.F. 'Plato on why mathematics is good for the soul', in T. Smiley (ed.)

Mathematics and Necessity in the History of Philosophy (2000)

How should we conceive the nature and role of the Form of the Good?

'Plato's Idea of the Good is practically empty. It gives us no indication of what is good, in a moral sense, i.e. what we ought to do' (Sir Karl Popper): is this a fair criticism?

How does Plato take mathematics to bear on morality?

Anthony Price Term 2, 2000/1