

## Theognis 133–142

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- οὐδείς, Κύρν', ἄτης καὶ κέρδεος αἴτιος αὐτός,  
ἀλλὰ θεοὶ τούτων δώτορες ἀμφοτέρων·  
135 οὐδέ τις ἀνθρώπων ἐργάζεται ἐν φρεσὶν εἰδώς  
ἐς τέλος εἴτ' ἀγαθὸν γίγνεται εἴτε κακόν.  
πολλάκι γὰρ δοκῶν θήσειν κακὸν ἐσθλὸν ἔθηκεν,  
καὶ τε δοκῶν θήσειν ἐσθλὸν ἔθηκε κακόν.  
οὐδέ τω ἀνθρώπων παραγίγνεται ὅσος ἐθέλησιν·  
140 ἴσχει γὰρ χαλεπῆς πείρατ' ἀμηχανίης.  
ἄνθρωποι δὲ μάταια νομίζομεν, εἰδότες οὐδέν·  
θεοὶ δὲ κατὰ σφέτερον πάντα τελοῦσι νόον.

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<sup>133</sup>Κύρνος voc. Cyrnus, the youth to whom so many of T's poems are addressed. ἄτη ἡ delusion, recklessness; bane, pest. κέρδος τό gain, profit, advantage. αἴτιος α ον responsible (for) + gen.

<sup>134</sup>δώτωρ ορος ὁ giver. ἀμφοτέρως α ον either; in pl. both.

<sup>135</sup>ἐργάζομαι ἐργάσομαι εἰργασάμην work. φρήν φρενός ἡ dat.pl. diaphragm but usually metaphorical for heart, soul, mind. οἶδα εἴσομαι ἤδεα aor.act.part. nom.sg.m. know.

<sup>136</sup>τέλος τό result, outcome, completion, end; ἐς τέλος in the end. εἴτε in English, this would come before ἐς τέλος. γίγνεται here turn out.

<sup>137</sup>δοκέω think, suppose; seem. Take δοκῶν θήσειν κακόν as a concessive participle clause.

<sup>138</sup>As in 137, take δοκῶν θήσειν ἐσθλόν as a concessive participle clause.

<sup>139</sup>τῷ note accenting, = τινί. παρα-γίγνομαι be near, come near, come to + dat. ὅσ(σ)ος ἡ ον as great (as), as much/many (as). ἐθέλησιν Epic 3sg. subjunctive.

<sup>140</sup>ἴσχω hold, keep back; have; the subject is πείρατα, the object is unexpressed but refers back to 1.139 τῷ ἀνθρώπων. πείραρ πείρατος τό end, limit; instrument, tool. ἀμηχανία ἡ lack of means; helplessness, hardship.

<sup>141</sup>μάταιος α ον empty, vain, foolish; here adverbial.

<sup>142</sup>κατά + acc., here according to. σφέτερος α ον their (own); the noun is νόον. τελέω accomplish, fulfill. νόος ὁ mind, sense, judgement.