

Episode Sixty - Dreams and the Mind's Use of Images

Post by "Cassius" of March 3, 2021 at 8:58 AM

On the issue of whether this process of working with images is the same or similar to that of preconceptions, it would be good to review Voula Tsouna's article. In posting this today I scanned through it to look for whether it equated image processing with preconceptions. It doesn't jump out at me that she does, but I may have missed it. I do note, however, that in her table of keywords I do not see "images" or its equivalent.

Epicurean Preconceptions

Voula Tsouna
Philosophy Department, University of California, Santa Barbara
South Hall 349/3450, Santa Barbara, CA 93106, USA
vtsouna@philosophy.ucsb.edu

Abstract

This paper provides a comprehensive study of the Epicurean theory of preconception. It addresses what a preconception is, how our preconception of the gods can be called *noetai*, *imatai*, the role played by *epithetai* (active mental focusing), and how preconceptions play a semantic role different from that of *noetai* in Stoicism. The paper highlights the conceptual connections between these issues, and also shows how later Epicureans develop Epicurus' doctrine of preconceptions while remaining orthodox about the core of that doctrine.

Keywords

Epicurus - preconception - empiricism - imitation - gods - mental focusing - semantics - definitions