

Episode Ninety-Three: Torquatus Leads Us Forward Into Conflict Over Epicurean Ethics

Post by "Cassius" of October 29, 2021 at 8:03 PM

[Quote from Godfrey](#)

(I think I'm channeling Scalia, god forbid!)

(Godfrey thereby establishes himself as an "Originalist" or "Original Intent" Epicurean!)

All politics aside, that's pretty much what I mean with the "classical Epicurean" description in the "Not-NeoEpicurean" statement and the podcast introduction.

It's highly useful, and just intellectually honest, to try to first figure out what they believed originally before we consider our own freelancing additions, and always good to clearly mark those as freelancing 😊

One interesting thing there is that Jefferson due to his Epicurean viewpoints probably was not himself an "original intent" kind of guy, except in the way that I think Epicurus would himself be today -- he'd separate the things that don't change (no supernatural gods, no life after death, no absolute virtue, key role of pleasure) but always insist that the way to implement them is contextual and therefore relative to time and place and many other circumstances.

So I guess even in Epicurean terms we freelance according to our circumstances based on the original intent understanding of the key and unchanging observations. (The wording of that could be improved!)