

Tim O'Keefe's "Epicurean Guide To Christmas" (An Article And Responses)

Post by "Cassius" of December 29, 2021 at 2:29 PM

Elli's first comment:

IMO in a "test" written in this article, there are some thoughts who is the genuine epicurean, and how he/she thinks and acts in real life. Let's examine this "test".

"The test would be, let's imagine that your Christmas meal accidentally burnt up in the oven, and you had to break out some rice and beans from the pantry. Would you be upset, or would you laugh about it and enjoy the rice and beans?"

On the above question of that "test" the first thought that came in my mind was that quote by Menander:

- Γελάει δ' ὁ μωρός, κἄν τι μὴ γέλοιοι ᾗ. Γελάει ὁ ἀνόητος καὶ ἀν' ἀκόμα δὲν ὑπάρχει κάτι το ἀστεῖο.

In english => The fool laughs even when there's nothing funny.


(Short sayings by Menander -Sententiae Menandri).

First of all, a genuine epicurean that is doing something pleasurable and joyfull (e.g. here we see that he/she cooks for a special occasion) is prudent, and PRUDENCE - in the basis of the experiences and the right measurement among pain and pleasure - is his/her guide for being careful to not burn a festive meal, as well as a genuine epicurean is not a stoic to laugh like a fool in every occasion.

But although IF an epicurean would burn up accidentally a meal that is for a special occasion, he will be upset for a moment and then thinking clearly, he will pick up the phone to order something special from a local taverna, since the genuine epicurean is not a stingy and sociopath man like the Cynics.

Thus, in the basis of responsibility, since a genuine epicurean is responsible personality, he will spend some money more buying something special for his friends, paying for his error and at the same time is helping the local store/restaurant/taverna and his local market, in general.

For this reason, and since a genuine epicurean is friendly with the others, the owner of that local taverna, when he would hear that his friendly epicurean has burnt up the festive meal in the oven, he will offer him and a generous discount, since the owner of that taverna wants to preserve and adding some good clients.

So simply a genuine epicurean passes a "test" in real life, and that's how he preserves the social coherence! page not found or type unknown