

Was Epicurus really arrogant?

Post by “smoothiekiwi” of January 8, 2022 at 7:20 AM

After reading the fifth chapter of the book, I'm left with a sour taste in my mouth. Epicurus is here portrayed as a somehow self-centered philosopher. Posing for portraits, claiming the right to be claimed „wise man“, as opposed to „philosopher“, only for himself, and letting his disciples celebrate the birthday of his mother and father don't seem for me to be adequate traditions for such a school of philosophy. Thus, I get the impression that Epicurus was really interested in self-promotion as the „wise man“... which doesn't make sense, regarding his claim that everyone can be happy. If everyone can truly be happy, why then claim the title to be the only wise man, as opposed to the philosopher title, for himself? What does this title even mean in a philosophy of happiness- why is it necessary to introduce wisdom there?

Many questions, few answers 😞