

New Sedley Chapter On Ancient Greek Atheism

Post by "Don" of March 26, 2022 at 6:54 AM

[Quote from Godfrey](#)

...people felt about Dionysus as about no other god. He was not only outside of them, he was within them, too. They could be transformed by him into being like him. The momentary sense of exultant power wine-drinking can give was only a sign to show men that they had within them more than they knew; "they could themselves become divine."

That's a very interesting summary and direct quote, [Godfrey](#) . As I'm sure you meant to emphasize, this seems to echo or parallel Epicurus's ideas that we can live like gods among mortals. I agree that last part is problematic, but I would be curious of the timeline of developments. Maybe that's why Epicurus could enthusiastically participate in the feasts and sacrifices, and of the Dionysian ones especially, while overlaying it all with his version of piety.

I'm still trying to find the words Obbink translated as "meagre feast" which *could* be nothing more than a reference to maza and wine.

I'll be interested to find if anyone finds anything else in this topic.