

Epicurean Similarities With Early Christianity

Post by "Don" of May 29, 2022 at 1:13 PM

[Quote from Kalosyni](#)

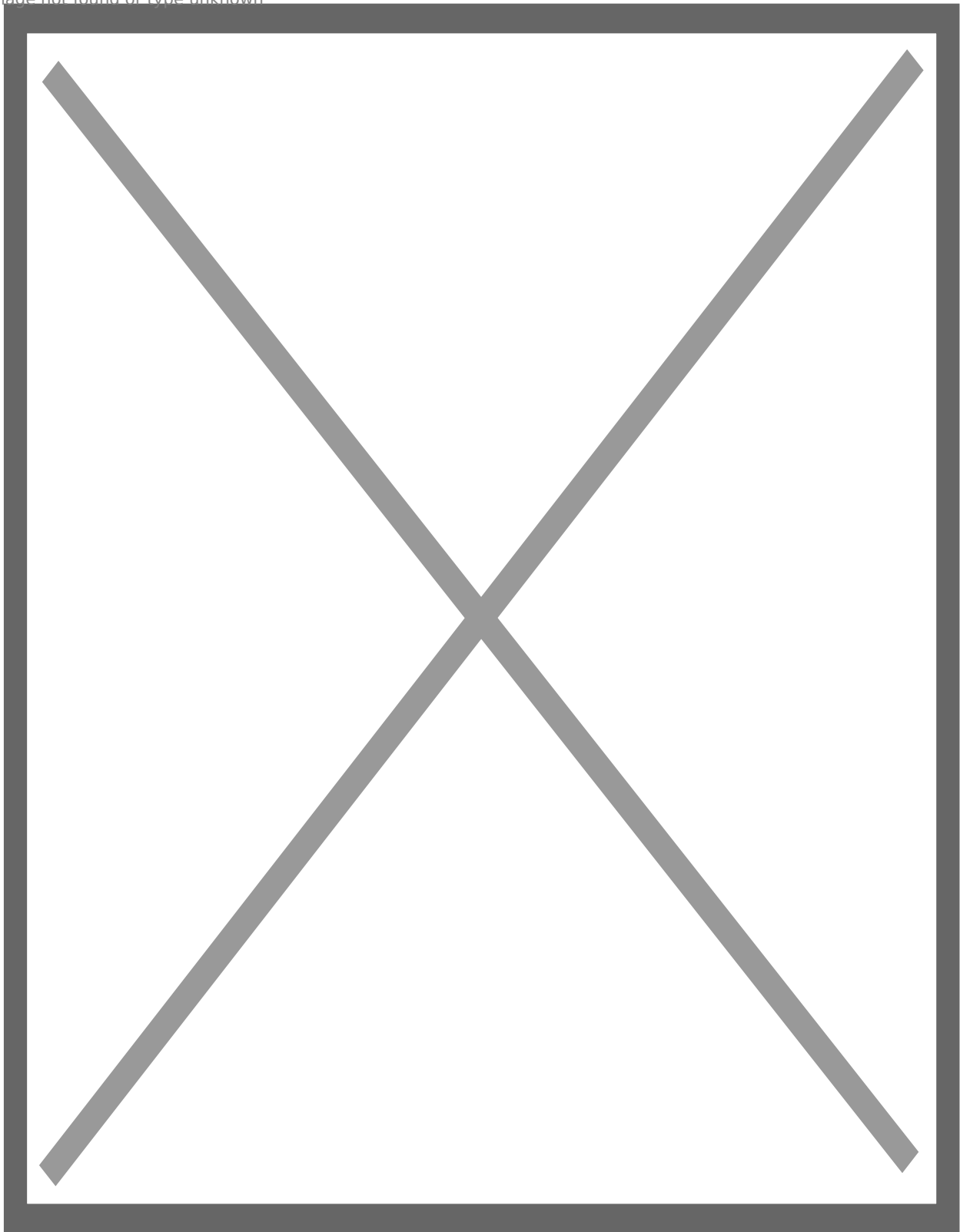
The current understanding of the word "saviour" comes to us by the Christian faith in Jesus being eternal/immortal and all powerful. I would doubt Epicureans felt that way about Epicurus.

I would agree that the Epicureans didn't see Epicurus as *that* kind of savior, but I have no problem thinking they saw him as a savior figure. He literally saved humanity from ignorance and fear. One doesn't have to be immortal or omnipotent to be a saviour. It was also a popular epithet for gods and heroes:

[Soter - Wikipedia](#)

PS:

Image not found or type unknown



[Early AD 121 - Plotina writes to Hadrian on behalf of the Epicurean school in Athens \(#Hadrian1900\) FOLLOWING HADRIAN](#)

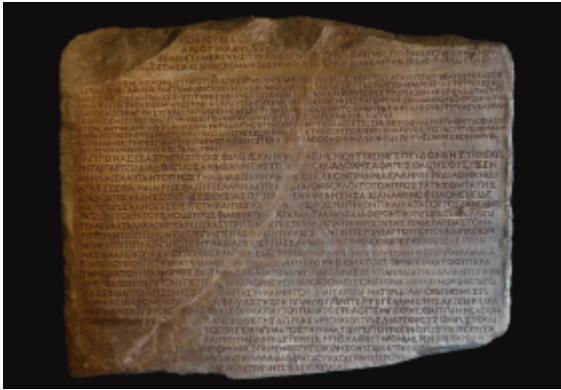
<http://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/2535-epicurean-similarities-with-early-christianity/?postID=18212#post18212>

In the early year of AD 121, Pompeia Plotina, the greatly respected widow of the emperor Trajan, sent Hadrian a letter asking him to help the Epicurean school...

followinghadrian.com

both the preservation of the dignity of that place which contains the (...) will be firmly secured and equally the opinion concerning the successor of our saviour, which... when... became master of the school, since Epicurus...

Saviour in her letter is ΣΩΤΗΡ:



Fourth line from the bottom on the right.

PS: That word is in the phrase ΚΑΘΗΓΕΜΟΝΙΑΣ ΤΟΥ ΣΩΤΗΡ which is kathēgemonias which I'm assuming the translator gives as "successor" but it is similar (identical?) to the terms used in DeWitt and elsewhere to refer to the teachers of the Garden.