

Maslow's hierarchy of needs

Post by “Martin” of August 24, 2022 at 5:27 PM

There is indeed an analogy between some of the needs and the Epicurean classification of desires.

However, transcendence is not compatible with Epicurean philosophy.

Self actualization is suspicious, too, because it is usually interpreted to become what you are meant to be. However, in Epicurean philosophy, there is no instance which would establish what you are meant to be.

By the way, Maslow himself never rendered his system of needs as a pyramid. The actual importance of a particular need varies with individual circumstances. Therefore, there is no fixed hierarchy.

He added transcendence much later when he apparently got already senile. At latest with the addition of transcendence, his system of needs moved out of science into superstition.