

Presenting the Principal Doctrines in Narrative Form

Post by “Don” of June 22, 2023 at 10:25 AM

Okay, so here's my next project in my "copious" free time 😊 I want to look at the "best" Greek manuscripts transcribing Diogenes Laertius and go through them, looking for natural breaks in the text - not topical necessarily but literally in the written texts. Then to "reconstruct" the book listed as Κύρια δόξαι by Diogenes in Epicurus's bibliography. Note that that title doesn't have a definite article. It's NOT 'Αι κύρια δόξαι "THE [Principal Doctrines](#)" but Κύρια δόξαι "[Principal Doctrines](#)" as in maybe these are not EVERY Principal Doctrine of Epicurus but a good solid exposition of the important teachings Epicureans should pay attention to.

From my letter to Menoikeus introduction, I found that the six manuscripts listed by Bailey as the most significant and "representing a careful copying" are:

codex Borbonicus Neapolitanus gr. iii B. 29 (12th c) known as B

codex Parisinus gr. 1759 (14th c.) known as P

<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8470453h/f497.item> (the letter begins four lines from the bottom of folio 243r)

codex Parisinus gr. 1758 (14th or 15th c.) known as Q

<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b107231783/f203.item> (letter starts 16 lines down on left folio on page number 148)

codex Constantinopolitanus Veteris Serail. (14th or 15th c.) known as Co

codex Laurentianus LXIX. 35 (14th c.) known as H

<http://mss.bmlonline.it/Catalogo.aspx?Shelfmark=Plut.69.35>

Plut.69.35 is listed in the online catalog as coming from the 12th century, so I am unsure if it is H or something else. However, its inclusion in the Laurentian Library and its shelfmark 69.35 (i.e., LXIX. 35) leads me to believe it is. I'm not sure why Bailey gives it a date of 14th century.

codex Vaticanus gr. 140 (14th c.) known as W

https://digi.vatlib.it/view/MSS_Vat.gr.140 (letter begins 13 lines down on right folio 177)

PS. This project will be *after* revising my Menoikeus commentary to include the discussion on απολαυσεις in 131 etc. Just saying.