

"The Philosophical Mind" enters the skull of Epicurus (Benjamin de Casseres)

Post by "EricR" of July 27, 2023 at 10:23 AM

Great discussion, folks!

Perhaps I am too simple-minded in these matters. The sentence, "All is permitted" seems to have taken us into the well-known religious phrase, "Without God, all is permitted". This has been debated, disputed, dissected, etc. by bigger brains than mine.

Yet I did not interpret the use of that phrase in de Casseres' mention of it that way at all.

As it came on the heels of rejecting all the philosophies prior to Epicurus, and specifically the restriction on what is true inherent in each, I thought the phrase meant something like, "all ideas about truth are permitted."

Further, I thought that because the context was Epicurus, the implication of this was that the ideas are permitted because none are complete yet all bring some pleasure and affirmation of life itself.

Maybe I missed something, but that was how I took it.