

Epicureanism as the spiritual essence or 'religion' of an entire community

Post by “Peter Konstans” of September 29, 2023 at 8:38 PM

Hey Nate. I am aware of Hiram Crispo but the reason I am here and not on his page is that I feel he's identifying Epicureanism too closely with mainstream left-wing politics and consequently with what Catherine Liu calls PMC virtue. I don't feel comfortable with this. Although I'm not formally involved in any political movement - and never will - my preferred politics personally is Marxist-Leninism-Trotskyism (I am a WSWWS reader) which is firmly opposed to what we identify as the modern pseudo-left who we regard as only serving the class interests of the professional managerial class. In any case I don't mix up my political preferences with my Epicureanism. I think a more orthodox and authentic stance from the point of view of Epicureanism would be to maintain absolute political neutrality as well as a rather cynical view on the nature of politics akin to that of the ancient Sophists or Hobbes and which was still preserved in old-style Marxism. The notion of a clean and civilized politics that animates most supporters of modern pseudo-leftist movements is in my view incompatible with the spirit of ancient Epicureanism. It is rather an idealistic and platonic notion and one that got Seneca killed. I gotta go hit the sack. I'll address more issues tomorrow.