

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

Post by “Don” of October 2, 2023 at 7:31 PM

I'll do my best to respond in more depth later; however, for now I'll simply say that I am not impressed with the parallel citations in the excerpt from the virtual Jewish library. They seem to have only a surface similarity with each other (Epicurean vs Jewish) at most for the majority, and some seem to have less than that. At best for any similarities, I'd posit a case of convergent evolution with no necessary connection for the most part.

I find it hard to accept that a religion that uses Epicurus's name as a designation for an apostate or skeptic is looking to the same philosophy for inspiration:

apikoros From Hebrew סוּרוּקִיפָא ('epikóros, “heretic”), from Ancient Greek Ἐπίκουρος (Epíkouros, “Epicurus”), but later associated with Aramaic אַרְקַרְ (’aḗḗr, “to abandon”).