

# What If Anything Has Changed About Human Nature In the Last 2000 Years?

Post by “BrainToBeing” of January 4, 2024 at 10:05 AM

Wow, you all really jumped into this! Fabulous, and thank you. With your permission I have copied all of the answers since the question of #13 so that I may study the extensive and interesting answers from you. There is plenty of food for thought in all of those.

First, I need to acknowledge due respects to you Kalosyni.

## [Quote from Kalosyni](#)

The goal for this EpicureanFriends forum is to study the extant texts and to apply the philosophy as presented by Epicurus

It is certainly not my intention to divert you or this group from your intended goal. So, if questions such as the one in my entry, #13, are uncomfortable then I will not inquire similarly again.

Yet, I'm delighted to see the answers that have derived. You all have a wealth of knowledge about the classical philosophers. Kudos to you all!

What interests me is this overview: In regard to humans "being" is 'then' different from 'now'? I am interested in this question because of another question: "Has the human brain changed in the last couple of thousand years?" So, all of you, so steeped in the history and works of the classical philosophers, provide a fascinating reflection on those questions.

In my view, I don't live then. I live now. And, my philosophy reflects my current "now". Indeed, it is built from a history of perspectives that go back to some very, very insightful people of "then" - the great philosophers that you all recognize so well (and can quote with authority!). And, I think we are all impressed by what those greats knew then (else Epicureanfriends would not exist). Further, I think we are all aware that in many respects the insights of "then" still apply to "now". Thus we reference Godfrey:

## [Quote from Godfrey](#)

"So, to all you smart, interesting neurobiologists I ask a question: since the classical authors referenced here lived 2000+ years ago, has anything changed? What, if anything, is new in the understanding of the functioning of life (contrasted to these classical perspectives)?"

And, to answer IMO, the human brain has changed little in the ensuing 2000+ years. And that is an issue. The world has changed greatly in certain ways (obvious to all). Yet, human beings, and being human, have not changed greatly. Thus, we sit at this fascinating time. It is not just a time when we may consider philosophy of how to live. It is the time when AI will bring a new "player" to the arena and to those discussions. We will, and do, struggle with questions about how the interactions with our new player will go.

So, ultimately, I ask questions such as in entry #13 to see what perspectives we bring to this era. If the admonitions/instructions/advocacies of 2000 year ago apply without change to this era then that will lead to one set of conclusions about this era. If there are changes, then what changes? I think you all have added greatly to those considerations. Thanks again.