

Pros and Cons Of Considering Epicurean Philosophy To Be A "Religion"

Post by "Peter Konstans" of February 2, 2024 at 3:55 PM

[Quote from Pacatus](#)

"Even the principle of Epicurean pleasure requires making sacrifices." It requires choices and trade-offs. And not sacrifice to the "principle" - let alone to some "principle of Epicureanism." And the trade-offs are simply for the *practical* goal of happiness defined as the most pleasant/pleasurable life (which includes others). You seem to be largely just substituting the word "principle" for "ideal." Or perhaps deliberately confusing them. Are you trying to craft an "Epicureanism" that is really subsumed under Stoic values and ethics? It sounds like it.

I am sure you'll be able to find plenty of people to take loyalty oaths and pledges of obedience, and to sacrifice themselves on the altar of your principles, Peter, at the beck of their leaders (under whatever "ism" you invoke). I will not be one of them - and that's on principle. (Argumentum finale est.)

I will just make one brief comment: the idea that a world is possible where individual and collective sacrifices are pointless and unnecessary is the very definition of Utopia.