

Prolepsis of the gods

Post by "Cassius" of June 26, 2025 at 8:03 PM

[Quote from Don](#)

That said, with due respect to Cassius and others bringing in Meno and the theory of knowledge, I ****personally**** see prolepsis, ancient concepts of memory formation, the workings of the *psykhē* (mind/soul), to be of tangential importance to applying Epicurus' philosophy in the modern world to my way of living. I find the investigations that the ancients dealt in and how they arrived at their findings of fascinating intellectual curiosity. But *eidola* do not grind grooves into my *psykhē* to make subsequent similar *eidola* easier to intercept. Brains don't work that way.

Yes Rolf, it's important to realize that not everyone here has the same focus and goals. Some of us are more interested in our own personal lives, and some of us are more interested in reconstructing the system for longer-term societal applications. These goals can be complementary and there is no reason for them to be in conflict, but you don't want to let yourself get whipsawed between the two perspectives.

To date we have had a small enough group that most everyone who has posted regularly has participated in most every conversation. But it's not necessary for those who aren't worried about competition between the schools to worry about the competitive angles, nor do the "evangelicals" need to look down on the "therapists." Each person can decide for themselves which aspects they are interested in and pursue those. If you are anyone reading this doesn't feel that prolepsis is something that interests you, there's no need to force yourself down a path that doesn't seem to be leading anywhere to that person. On the other hand canonics is an example of a hotly-debated topic that Epicurus himself thought to be important.