

# Episode 321 - EATAQ 03 - The Epicurean Criticism of Socrates For Denouncing Natural Science

Post by "Cassius" of February 19, 2026 at 1:54 PM

This will deserve its own thread - Socrates' "Second Sailing" and its implications from the Epicurean perspective.

Thread

[An Analogy That Should Live Forever In Infamy Along With His Ridiculous "Cave" Analogy - Socrates' "Second Sailing"](#)

Carl Sagan's "Backbone of the Night" episode has me wanting to pursue further the condemnation of Socrates and Plato for deprecating the study of natural philosophy. Here's some initial research into a term apparently that is a key part of that terrible turn of philosophy:

## What was Socrates' "second sailing"?

Socrates' "second sailing" (in Greek: deuterous plous, δεύτερος πλοῦς) is a famous metaphor and methodological turning point described in [Plato's Phaedo \(around 99c-d\)](#). It occurs during...



Cassius

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