

Charles' Personal Outline

Post by "Cassius" of September 3, 2019 at 6:10 PM

Wow that is a great and elaborate outline Charles. You've really given some thought to each aspect of Epicurus. Is this recent with you, or have you been studying the physics and the epistemology in addition to the ethics?

There are many many details that can be discussed and I will start with just a few:

[Quote from Charles Edwins](#)

We are not born with innate knowledge of our surroundings or of the universe, upon birth our minds are like a blank slate to be filled through direct sensory experiences, much like Locke's tabula rasa.

Rather than disagree with you on this, let me ask you: (1) Have you read DeWitt's material on Anticipations? (2) What do you perceive Anticipations to be?

[Quote from Charles Edwins](#)

A fourth criterion can also be applied: "presentational applications of the mind", for discussing things which we cannot observe, but can perceive directly but strictly in our minds.

This you presumably read in Diogenes Laertius. What is your understanding as to why Epicurus had only three criterion, and what is your understanding as to why other/later Epicureans added the fourth category?

[Quote from Charles Edwins](#)

Part of that conduct, includes virtue and its purpose, the purpose of living pleurably, not as a reward to live in the afterlife.

To live pleurably alongside virtue, one must use virtue as a stepping stone when one sees fit, not the other way around.

On these two items, how do you define "virtue" and how does one determine what is virtuous in any particular set of circumstances?