

# Epicurus, gods and God

Post by "Eikadistes" of October 13, 2019 at 4:50 PM

In general, it was much more *faux pas* for ancient Greeks to claim **hedonism** than **atheism**, which was a fairly acceptable theological position to take (and Epicureans were **very** comfortable claiming hedonism). It is **not** likely that they were trying to avoid charges of *impiety*, especially when Epicurus expressed that he "*never yearned to please the masses since what pleased them was not understood by me, and what I knew was remote from their comprehension*".

It's reasonable to suppose - in an **infinite** universe - that *beings who enjoy perfect, constant pleasure* (or, in other words, beings who enjoy *atomic blessedness*) can exist. If it were **not** the case, and such a being could **not** exist, then it might be *foolish* for us to pursue pleasure in the first place, because it would be fundamentally limited.

It's just weird for us to think about a "God" that (1) is not responsible for creation or creative acts, (2) does not set a moral standard for the cosmos, (3) does not care about humanity, (4) does not judge, reward, or punish us, and (5) a "God" that cannot perform supernatural acts. Monotheism has really ruined some rather interesting definitions and conceptions of "God" and "the gods", because we default to thinking about theology only within the context of monotheism.