

Discussion of the Society of Epicurus' 20 Tenets of 12/21/19

Post by "Cassius" of January 10, 2020 at 1:13 PM

[Quote from Mike Anyayahan](#)

And if that happens, what would you think of me who believes in all the teachings of Epicurus except in the context of god?

I would think that you would be just like many people who went through the Epicurean school in the ancient world or just called themselves by that name, and were in the process of studying but maybe not accepting every doctrine. Really that is ultimately the point -- Epicurus had a "School," not a membership society where people were certified by the headquarters.

[Quote from Mike Anyayahan](#)

The Garden would accept people from different walks of life such as slaves and women. This attitude doesn't show any exclusivity and conservatism.

I think your conclusion in sentence two from the fact cited in sentence one probably does not follow -- unless you hold that slave status and sex and "walk of life" dictate that a person is going to think a certain way -- which you might as a holdover from Marxism 😊 but which I would say is not true, and Epicurus would say is not true, since he held that humans have at least some degree of free will.

But as to ideas and doctrines, the entire written record of the school amounts to a set of teachings that they were spreading to others and expecting others to accept, so yes they were conservative and exclusive *in terms of ideas*. But people of any class who held those ideas were accepted as part of the school, and that's why their admission standards were wider than the other schools.