

Characteristics of the Wise Man, 1-9 Rough Draft of Outline

Post by "Godfrey" of May 29, 2020 at 2:10 PM

Quote

That the wise man, however, cannot exist in every state of body, nor in every nation.

When I read this I think of indoctrination, personality, disability and hierarchy of needs. For example:

A person raised in a culture (or nation) that devoutly follows a particular religion is going to have a difficult time becoming an Epicurean sage.

I know people who honestly believe that reason is the goal of man, and this complements their personality. They will never accept the primacy of the faculties and consider such an idea ridiculous.

Mental disability might present a condition where one is like a newborn or an animal, so while full comprehension wouldn't be available, one might have access to the faculties on some level.

Hierarchically (a la Maslow), lack of access to food, shelter and safety might preclude a focus on philosophy.

I don't think of any of these absolutely preventing sagehood but making it highly unlikely. Also I'm looking at this from a 21st century perspective which might relate to the "outdated" issue.