

The Dangers of Misdirected Increase of Knowledge

Post by "Susan Hill" of October 10, 2020 at 10:13 AM

Ugh. Well, Lucian's Hermetimus is pretty devastating. I have been much chastened.

In other words, it is brilliant and I am glad of the recommendation.

He seems to leave us with at least one useful test of a philosophy: are its adherents quite happy? Or, I suppose, does its practice make us happy presently, rather than in some promised future. This would seem to allow Epicureanism some merit, at least.

Maybe I can redeem some of my years of study of fruitless philosophies by appealing to a little neuroscience. Apparently, knowledge which is hardest won, sticks the best. (Sorry I can't find the study I'm referring to at the moment...) Perhaps I will be better able to recognize and appreciate more useful doctrines for having so much experience with false ones... One can hope.

You are right, Cassius, we can't avoid studying these things. The influence of "dead-end" doctrines are everywhere. We need to be able to recognize and appraise them cogently.

Martin, thank you for joining the discussion. Your years of study are very useful to us here!! It seems to me that the two main problematical findings of quantum theory are the Schrodinger equation and quantum entanglement. Are they as "nonsensical" as they are generally presented? Or do they really point to something VERY weird going on that does not fit with classical physics?

I fully identify with your regrets about your time in the Church. I wish I could get my 10 years spent there back as well.