

# Reverence and Awe In Epicurean Philosophy

Post by "Cassius" of December 24, 2020 at 11:19 AM

## [Quote from Matt](#)

Either way, the expectations simply should be that "theology" is not a hallmark of EP in its own right (or at least what we know of it) and wanting too much from it will only cause a person distress

I think the "expectations" part is key. I personally find meaningfulness and substance in "both" of the perspectives: (1) As a "star trek" kind of person, I think it is useful for at least people like me to have a view that life exists in other parts of the universe, and we are not the highest, and to have "expectations" as to what the nature of a "highest" life would be. (2) Maybe the second bleeds into the first, but I also think that the idealization / visualization of an actually-achieved goal provides sort of interim goalposts that we can shoot for ourselves, and that the setting of goals is an important part of mental health.

I think your comments Matt about the state of religion in ancient greece and rome are very correct. The lack of exclusivity makes it much easier to be friendly with different perspectives in way that any kind of "chosen people" religion is going to rule out.

So I do think that there is a lot more that can and should be developed in the study of an "Epicurean Theology" but we do have to manage the expectations to avoid disappointment.