

Epicurean philosophy vs. Stoicism in public popularity

Post by "Titus" of March 12, 2021 at 7:26 PM

While writing on another commentary, I tried to check for online boards focused on Stoicism. 10 years before they seemed to be much more elaborated as a community than the lone standing Epicureans. I think the degree of organisation and connecting has improved a lot since then and the content production has risen dramatically in Epicureanism. The website "NeoStoa" respectively "the stoic registry" is declining (though offering online courses with tuition). Nevertheless, people on facebook are still more adorned to Stoicism than to Epicurean philosophy. At first glance, they enjoy intensive discussions there.

Do you have any idea, why the Stoics are still more popular than the Epicurean system of thought? My personal thesis is, that one point may be an easier applicability of Stoicism in the way of being a more abstract philosophy. You don't need to learn about the world as a whole and make your conclusions like in Epicureanism. There are lone standing "techniques", mutually intelligible with other popularized systems of thought like Zen Buddhism etc.

I don't think there is necessarily a need for more audience - sometimes it may feel even more exclusive 😎

What are your hypotheses and ideas? Did they start earlier spreading the internet or fit better in already existing structures? What are your observations?