

Episode Sixty-Seven - Did The Gods Wake Up One Day To Create The Universe?

Post by "Don" of April 19, 2021 at 9:57 PM

I believe this is where Sedley and those of the "idealist" persuasion pertaining to the [Epicurean gods](#) get their justification. I'm inclined to agree with them.

My understanding of this position is: We conceive of blessed and incorruptible beings as exemplars of "perfect" life forms. These ideas/images/concepts are what "sustain" the gods. Ergo, the gods have no existence apart from the images we assign to them. The gods are literally our attempt to imagine the highest most pleasurable existence.

Now, that being said, I'm still not clear how imagination works in an Epicurean context. Do we combine images and concepts that are extant in the world? If so, are the gods simply a combination of humans expanded to giant size and infused with our idea of a perfectly pleasurable existence?

The right answer is not easy to find.