

Astronomical Events During the Time of Epicurus (& Discussion on Letter to Pythocles Section 91)

Post by "Don" of May 28, 2021 at 12:02 PM

[Quote from Nate](#)

It would be uncharacteristic and inconsistent of Epicurus to support this, especially when he posits the explicit existence of exoplanets.

All great points, @Nate , but I do want to fine tune your statement quoted here.

What Epicurus posited was an "infinite number of cosmoi (cosmoses?):"

τὴν ἀπειρίαν τῶν κόσμων.

...tēn apeiran tōn cosmon.

We live in a cosmos composed of the Earth at the center with the sun and moon and stars encircling us.

Other cosmoses with their own sun, moon and stars exist according to his theory, but they're their own world-system. They don't inhabit our world-system or cosmos. And the gods live in between these cosmoi in the metacosmia/intermundia. And all those cosmoi are part of the All, To Παν, To Pan, the Universe.

Sorry to be pedantic, but I don't want to equate our knowledge of exoplanets in our cosmos, as it were, with what Epicurus would have understood that to mean.