

Toward a New Interlinear Gloss of De Rerum Natura

Post by "Cassius" of June 2, 2021 at 9:43 PM

[Quote from Don](#)

Before that they were just the [Principal Doctrines](#) with no number attached then it looks like?

It seems to me that i have read it theorized that they were never numbered in the ancient world at all, and that it was read like a book, like the letter to menoeceus, and in fact what we consider the 40 doctrines may well be one of the books of Epicurus that Cicero refers to as -- gosh what was it -- the "celestial book?" This is definitely something that i've always wanted to pursue because I think the numbering is a MAJOR problem for interpretation, especially for what we consider to be 3 and 4, which I think ought all to be read together and probably closely in context of 2. Splitting them apart really adds to the problem with making sense of them

[Quote from JJElbert](#)

But Usener evidently had a profound dislike for Diogenes Laertius!

Now THAT i have never heard. Do you gather it was for more than the standard criticism that DL was a gossip more than philosopher?