

Foundations 002 - This Man Could Not Be Discouraged By Stories of Gods...

Post by "Cassius" of July 28, 2021 at 3:10 PM

[Quote from Don](#)

to coming up with enough plausible, physical explanations that would rule out the need for any supernatural intervention.

I think that's another way of getting at something we need to articulate better - describing the "degree of confidence" that is involved in "ruling out" something. It is very easy for radical skeptics to say "You haven't been everywhere / You haven't been around forever / You don't know everything" therefore it COULD be possible that supernatural intervention is real.

I think a large part of what Epicurus was after was developing a "system" for being able to answer that kind of skepticism, which means giving us a framework to know when to have confidence and when not to -- meaning, when we can "rule out" something and when we can't.

It's not simply a matter of "reason" or "rationality" either, since those are necessarily based on the senses, and our ultimate standard of truth is not "reason" or "logic" or "rationality." Articulating that is tricky but it's an important part of the system.