

# Foundations 005 - By His Victory Religion Is Trampled Underfoot

Post by "Don" of August 10, 2021 at 10:06 PM

You're right, [Cassius](#) , that is a good line!

FYI: I noticed in the [Perseus Latin edition, it's line 78-79.](#)

I fully agree with your take on religion vs superstition.

Those translations of various permutations of "we are raised to heaven by victory" or, worse, "His conquest makes us equal to the Gods" bother me. It smacks of the supernatural. Lucretius's "caelo" is just the dative of *caelum* which is the ["the sky, heaven, the heavens, the vault of heaven \(in Lucr alone more than 150 times\)."](#)

I don't think it can be anything to do with the Gods because the [Epicurean gods](#) "reside" in the Intermundia, not the heavens. They are beyond the "vault of the heavens." The "vault of heaven" is just the sphere/bowl that surrounds/covers the Earth that has the stars, planets, etc.

Leonard's translation at Perseus reads:

*Wherefore Religion now is under foot,*

*And us his victory now exalts to heaven.*

If you exalt someone to "high heaven" it's just a metaphor for "raising the roof" as it were. Those translation seem to imply a supernatural connotation. I think Lucretius is just saying "Let the bells rings out and the banners fly! Woohoo!! We are victorious! Religion has no power over us!!"