

Anticipations - Justice & Divine Nature

Post by "Cassius" of August 16, 2021 at 3:42 PM

This is the position Epicurus was fighting AGAINST, and so you can pretty much REVERSE this and see what Epicurus' position would have been in arguing that these things are impossible due to the nature of the universe. That means that these things don't exist anywhere, and we won't find them existing in anticipations either. Anticipations will be something different - a faculty that allows us to see the issues involved in justice, like an eye allows us to see trees. But in processing our conclusions about trees or about justice, all of that process is something the human mind does to the best of its own ability, and people aren't going to reach the same conclusions about justice any more than they are going to use the same words or even use the same language to describe trees:

¹⁰ ZULUETA, *op .cit. supra* note 8, at 868 ff.

¹¹ Thus in his work *De Republica* (Bk. III, ch. 22), Cicero wrote: "Right reason is indeed a true law, in accord with nature, diffused among all men, unchangeable, eternal. By its commands, it calls men to their duty, by its prohibitions it deters them from vice. For the upright, it commands and prohibitions are not in vain, but neither by commanding nor by prohibiting does it move the wicked. To pass laws contrary to this law is impious, to derogate from it is unlawful, to do away with it is wholly impossible. Neither the Senate nor the people can dispense from it, nor is any ulterior expounder and interpreter to be sought for. There shall no longer be one law at Rome and another at Athens, nor shall it prescribe one thing today, and another tomorrow, but one and the same law eternal and immutable shall be prescribed for all nations and all times, and the god who shall prescribe, introduce and promulgate this law shall be the one common lord and supreme ruler of all, and whosoever will refuse obedience to him shall be filled with confusion, as this very act will be a virtual denial of his human nature; and should he escape a present punishment, he shall have to endure heavy chastisement hereafter." In the *Pro Milone*, he stated: "There is a law, judges, not written, but born within us, which we have not learned or received by tradition, or read but which we took in and imbibed from nature itself, which we were not trained in, but which is ingrained in us."

¹² For example, he wrote in his *Philippics* (xi, 12): "Law is nothing else than right reason derived from the gods, commanding what is honorable and forbidding the contrary."

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