

Comparing Epicurus to German Idealism

Post by "Eikadistes" of September 21, 2021 at 8:46 AM

Quote

In what "general" ways were the German idealists seeing themselves as different?

Ultimately, their goal was to synthesize the the school of the Rationalists with the competing school of Empiricists, so Plato may have only been an influence through the reach of Descartes' Rationalism. That being said, Kant mentions Plato by name in his introduction to *Critique of Pure Reason*, so I think Plato is a major influence:

"The light dove, cleaving the air of her free flight, and fleeing its resistance, might imagine that its flight would be still easier in empty space. It was thus that Plato left the world of the senses, as setting too narrow limits to understanding, and ventured out beyond it on the wings of the ideas, in the empty space of the pure understanding."

I'd call German Idealism an extension or expansion of Plato, not a *revival*, but an *addition*.