

Star Conclusions of Epicurean Theory

NINE STAR CONCLUSIONS OF EPICURUS



- ★ There Are No Supernatural Gods.
- ★ There Is No Life After Death.
- ★ Feeling is the Natural Guide To Happiness.
- ★ Happiness is The Goal of Life.
- ★ We Measure Own Happiness By Our Feelings Of Pleasure And Pain.
- ★ There is No Absolute Reason.
- ★ There is No Absolute Virtue.
- ★ There is No Absolute Justice.
- ★ Nothing is Reasonable Or Virtuous or Just That Does Not Lead To Happiness.

| Background: NewEpicurean.com | Discussion: EpicureanFriends.com | Links: EpicurusCentral.wordpress.com |

The usefulness of every bullet-point list has to be judged by its context and its target. The 40 Authorized Doctrines, for example, were clearly compiled for people who had a significant prior understanding both of Epicurean theory and general philosophical issues. The key Epicurean principles of physics that are necessary to the conclusions were not included at all, and canonics / epistemology is mentioned only briefly. With that background I want to prepare a graphic that summarizes in very brief but very clear terms some of the most important take-aways that a person who knows nothing about Epicurus would find most important. I have prepared this draft list as a start. Each item needs to be short but clear, and that's why I have not used any words like "canonics" or "anticipations" or even "truth," which are ambiguous at best and bewildering to most people.

As an example of my thinking, I have been considering including: "The Universe Is Eternal and Infinite, and Life Does Not Exist Only on Earth." However such a statement is long, not necessarily related to "ethics," and would probably appeal to more of a "geeky" audience (like myself maybe) rather than to a general reader.

There's no magic number, and I will probably mix and match lists according to the context in which I use them, but your thoughts and suggestions for pithy statements of key points would be appreciated! Think about the points that are most meaningful to you.

The current list is:

- 1- There Are No Supernatural Gods.
- 2- There Is No Life After Death.
- 3- Feeling is the Natural Guide To Happiness.
- 4- Happiness is The Goal of Life.
- 5- We Measure Our Own Happiness By Our Feelings Of Pleasure And Pain.
- 6- There is No Absolute Reason.
- 7- There is No Absolute Virtue.
- 8- There is No Absolute Justice.
- 9- Nothing is Reasonable Or Virtuous or Just That Does Not Lead To Happiness.