

A Request To New Participants

Post by "Condorcet" of November 7, 2018 at 10:10 PM

So good to learn about this forum.

My path to Epicurus started with reading Stephen Greenblatt's, *The Swerve, How the World Became Modern*, then I found an old (Modern Library?) edition of *De Rerum Nature* and have since settled on Walter Englert's translation which brings me to my point.

My relief and happiness at finding a philosophy that closely matches my perception and conclusions about the real world lead me to proselytize - I believe Epicureanism is good for everybody.

What complicates proselytizing for me are the commonly used translations of matters Epicurean. I have no judgment about the translations because I don't know anything about Ancient Greek. I do judge that at least two translations of *Canonic*s, generally accepted as the best, still render awkward, stilted syntax.

I appreciate the desire to be as true to the man as possible and I believe Epicurus shared his ideas as clearly and succinctly as possible. He had to keep his students attention and be nimble when engaging them.

I know I can be considered presumptuous as hell but I did some armchair analytics and tried my hand at revising a couple of *Canonic*s, always hoping to hew to the meaning. I hope others will try their own versions because it requires one to really consider meaning.

Doctrine 2. [Death is nothing to us](#), because that which is dead has no sensations, and that which cannot be sensed is nothing to us.

--That which is dead has no sensation, and that which cannot be sensed is nothing to us so [death is nothing to us](#).--

Doctrine 5. It is not possible to live pleasantly without living wisely, honorably, and justly. Nor can one live wisely, honorably, and justly without living pleasantly. But those who for any reason do not live wisely, honorably, and justly cannot possibly live pleasantly.

--Living pleasantly is not possible without living wisely, honorably, and justly. Nor can we live wisely, honorably, and justly without living pleasantly. Those who for any reason do not live wisely, honorably, and justly cannot possibly live pleasantly.--

...and so forth.