

The Letter to Menoeceus - Translation By Cyril Bailey

Post by "Pacatus" of December 21, 2021 at 4:50 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

The issue of the actual physical existence of the [Epicurean gods](#) does not seem to me to be essential to any of those positions.

In my humble view, that seems exactly right. And that in itself removes fear of the gods (or personified Fate, or hellfire, etc.). My understanding is that Epicurus was not interested in either physics or metaphysics *per se* --- but only in understandings that led to a pleasurable/ pleasant life of happy well-being.

And although it perhaps should not be taken too dogmatically, the old maxim about absence of evidence not being evidence of absence would also seem relevant here. Especially given the apparent difficulty in defining the exact lineaments of such putative gods.