

# **Epicureanism and cult-like mentality?**

**Post by “Matt” of January 8, 2022 at 8:28 AM**

I'm less concerned with the "cult" terminology these days because the content of Epicurus's philosophy is based on personal/individual perception of reality based on sensory experience. I'm certain you could classify Epicureans as somewhat cultic. But all that being said against the backdrop of the majority of the world historically being saturated in superstition, religion, false ideologies etc. Epicurus stands in stark contrast to other "cult" leaders, where he is trying to release society from the bondage of these ideologies. Most of those who we consider cult leaders (Sai Baba, Nithyananda, Jim Jones) are charlatans that rely on superstitious ideologies and religions. So Epicurus might be considered a cult leader to some, but given the context of his philosophy which isn't supernatural or based in some form of inaccessible secret gnostic knowledge that only the cult leader knows or has access to, he'd be the most benign in the history of cult leaders. People that venerate him (celebrate his life, his birthday etc.) recognize that in the long history of liars and frauds, Epicurus stood out as one who tried to break the chains of the religionist and supernaturalist frauds and give freedom to the individual to see the world as it is.