

Can you be an epicurean and use some logic with the senses?

Post by “Hiram” of December 9, 2018 at 8:42 AM

[Quote from godek](#)

Which book(s) of Philodemus is this that has these writings?

This is what I found in his scroll on music (<http://societyofepicurus.com/reasonings-on-philodemus-on-music/>) (the part in gray is a direct quote from the scroll):

Quote

After summarizing Diogenes' scroll, Philodemus argues that music (by which he means instrumental music, as he treats lyrics in a separate scroll on Poetry) is not capable of making us better or worse in character. This is one of his key points, and it's because of the lack of words, of lyrics.

This view is consistent with the view that therapeutic philosophy heals with words, with arguments. Therefore, music can not replace philosophy in its healing role: it can not, by itself, fix the human character. It can only have therapeutic value if it incorporates the words of the healing doctrines of philosophy.

And those that say that we are sweetened by music because she softens our souls and would deprive them of their savagery, one may consider them perfect imbeciles. In fact, it is only reason—because she teaches that none of the strange things that unreason invents has been produced by nature and that, furthermore, nothing of what she produces has any importance—that can perfectly reach this result, once it has attained its perfection, and while she is still on the path to perfection, it can alleviate in proportion