

"Religion is a part of me"... how to deal with that?

Post by "smoothiekiwi" of January 12, 2022 at 1:37 PM

Quote

"My son, it would have added one more to the seven wonders if you had. I incline to doubt, if two men, in the course of an olympiad, enter on an argument from the honest and single desire of coming at the truth, or if, in the course of a century, one man comes from an argument convinced by his opponent."

Absolutely! And that's why I think that the beauty of debate is not who has won, but who had the most fun while having that debate. The amount of fun certainly is- at least partially- aligned with who has the best chance of victory, but not only. Even so, I had a lot of fun in it 😄

[Matt](#), with great pleasure! I (obviously) cannot remember every single argument, but I can try and reassemble the approximate argumentation. We began by discussing if there's an absolute virtue (I now begin to understand that Plato is responsible for A LOT of suffering!) . I asked how a God can exist if there's so much suffering in the world, and my friend answered that the suffering is because of free will and that men will pay for the suffering inducted by their sins in heaven. Then, I asked that when men will suffer in heaven eternally, then heaven won't be heaven, but hell. My friend answered that they'll only suffer for some time, but the suffering will then get lower and lower, because God will forgive them. As a consequence, I asked how God can forgive everyone, because some misdeeds don't seem forgivable for me; and if everything is forgivable, then I might as well be sinful and have a lot of fun before I come into paradise. My friend agreed with me, but said that we should still try and be good, because he don't want to let his parents suffer by harming other people. And then I asked why he needed the concept of paradise and heaven in all of that, and he couldn't answer that. Thus, I tried to extent the logic by asking why he needs God- and then his answer came.

Basically, that was our argument (I probably have left out or forgotten a lot of it, sorry 😊)
Anyways, as I've mentioned, it was honestly respectful and a lot of fun, and thus very pleasurable. Still, I'm wondering that I couldn't find an answer to his answer- that the belief in God is an intrinsic part of him. Extended to the name of this sub-thread, "Dealing with the Non-Epicurean world", I'm not sure how much influence we as a community can exhibit, if other people think that dogmas are an intrinsic part of them. And I haven't found an answer to that, sadly. 😞