

AFDIA - Chapter One - Text and Discussion

Post by “Cassius” of January 26, 2022 at 8:56 AM

Discussion Points For This Chapter:

Chapter 1 Summary- First Meeting of Theon and Epicurus

1. Theon (a new student sent by his father from Corinth to Athens to learn philosophy) exits an assembly of the Stoic school. He is incensed by what he has heard about the depravity of the Epicurean school.
2. Theon meets a stranger on the road. It is Epicurus, but he does not identify himself.
3. Epicurus jokes about Theon appearing to be a follower of Plato, since he talks of gods, then jokes that Theon cannot be a Stoic if he is interested in a guide.
4. Epicurus advises Theon to have confidence in himself.
5. Epicurus advises Theon to visit other schools so as to learn and compare them.
6. Epicurus invites Theon into his home and announces to Theon - “I am Epicurus.”

Topic Questions:

1. “Can you pick out aspects of the story that are distinctly references to positions of Epicurean philosophy?”
 1. Why is asking for a guide inconsistent with Stoicism?
 2. As for visiting other schools to compare them, this question is asked of the Stoic student in Lucian's [Hermetimus](#).