

Reflections on chapter 11

Post by "Don" of January 28, 2022 at 5:28 PM

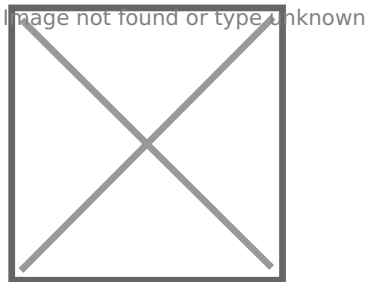
[Quote from SimonC](#)

I also wonder what evidence could have led Epicurus to claim that the rational soul is situated in the chest.

Because that's where you "feel" many emotions, the metaphorical and literal "tightening of the chest." It's the same cultural idea we have vestiges of with words like "heart broken."

There was a real debate in the ancient world of whether the mind was centered in the brain or the heart.

FYI:



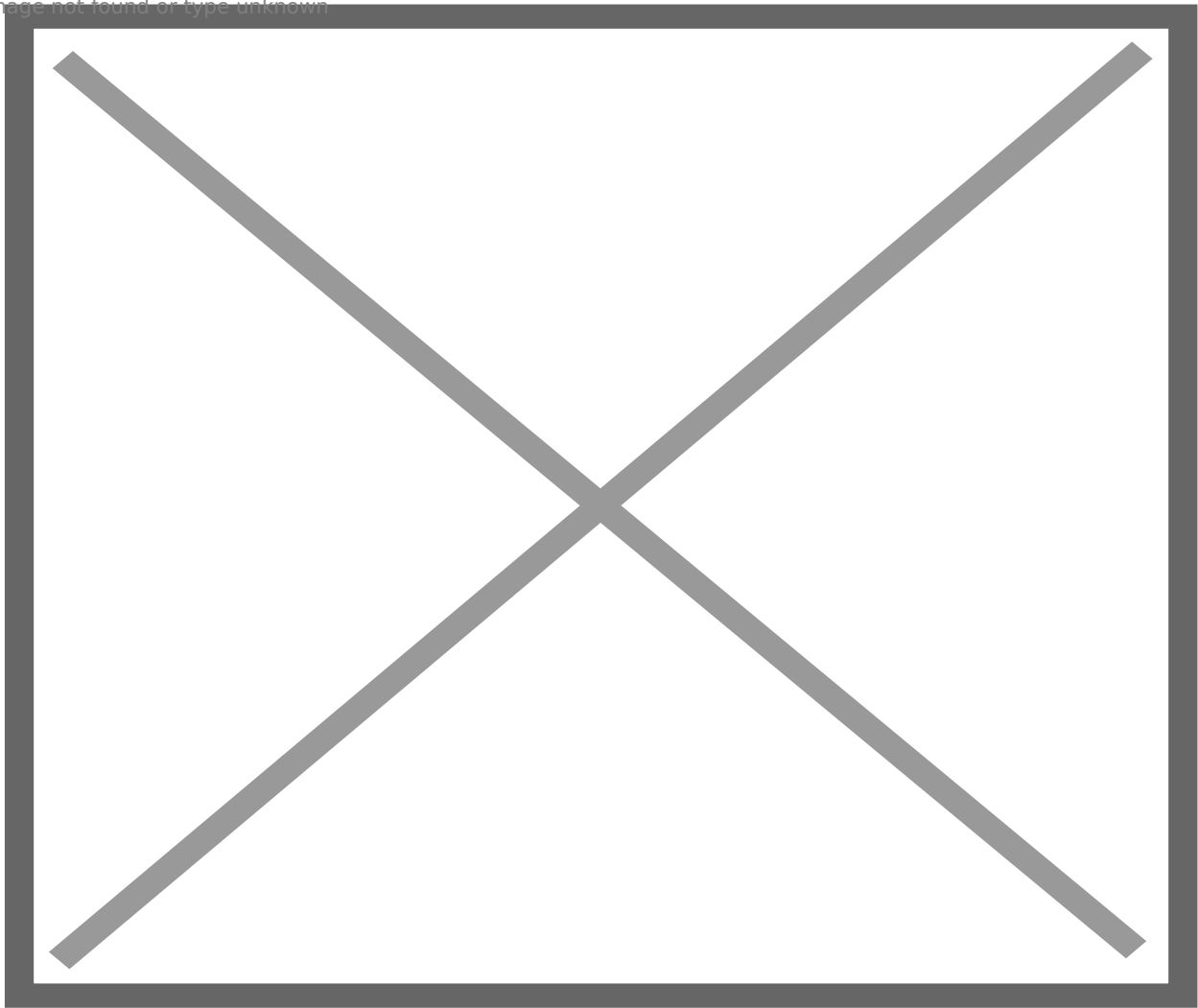
[Understanding Brain, Mind and Soul: Contributions from Neurology and Neurosurgery](#)

Treatment of diseases of the brain by drugs or surgery necessitates an understanding of its structure and functions. The philosophical neurosurgeon soon...

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"Prioreshi (1996) concluded that by the end of the 5th century B.C., the question of whether the heart or the brain was the seat of intelligence remained unresolved in Western medicine. This changed with the works of Hippocrates (ca. 460 BC-ca. 370 BC)"

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[Ancient Greek Philosophy and the Birth of Neuroscience](#)

We recognize today that the Ancient Greeks made significant achievements in mathematics, engineering, and astronomy, and that their achievements in these...

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"We now think that the opposing view - cardiocentrism - is obviously wrong. But thinkers as prominent as Aristotle subscribed to this view. Why? One possible explanation is that these philosophers observed that when the heart stops beating, you die, and so they conjectured that the heart must control the mind. Many prominent ancient Greek physicians held this view, and indeed the debate between cardiocentrism and encephalocentrism continued well into the Renaissance."