

Thomas Jefferson's Religious Beliefs

Post by "Cassius" of January 28, 2022 at 6:26 PM

I would not at all defend Jefferson as an Orthodox Epicurean, but I also take articles like that less seriously than I do Jefferson's own letters which I collect at <http://www.newepicurean.com/jefferson>

He was primarily a politician and was not very straightforward in reconciling his public and private statements.

In my view he serves mainly as a rather transparent way of "legitimizing" those of us who hold Epicurean views yet still want to move somewhat in traditional society. For someone who has no need to do that there's no need to spend much time with Jefferson.

Running a forum on ideas as revolutionary Epicurus while also keeping the lights on can be a tricky business!

As I said in a private exchange recently, I think we are probably more in a 'John the Baptist' stage of preparing the way for the real Epicurean world revolution, than we are the front line revolutionaries ourselves. 😊

So when the time comes for the next Epicurus to arise I won't be at all surprised no matter how much or how little time he or she spends with Jefferson.