

Episode One Hundred Fifteen - Letter to Herodotus

04 - Atoms, Void, and Basic Epistemology Issues

Post by “Don” of April 1, 2022 at 6:36 AM

[Quote from Pacatus](#)

* Don, I seem to recall that aletheia (?) in Greek meant that which was unconcealed/unhidden -- or revealed?

[Henry George Liddell, Robert Scott, A Greek-English Lexicon, ἀληθ-ής](#)

Also from Wiktionary:

Etymology

In form it would be from ἀ- (a-, “un-”) + *ληθής, from λῆθος (lêthos, “*concealment, forgetfulness”) + -ής (-és), thus “unconcealed”, “unforgotten”.

Ultimately from Proto-Indo-European *lehz- (“to be concealed”) (whence λήθω (lêthō), λανθάνω (lanthánō) and more)

Adjective

ἀληθής • m or f (neuter ἀληθές); third declension

(of things) true, real, genuine

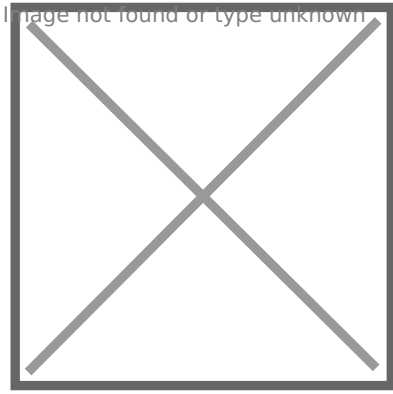
(of people) truthful, honest

385 BCE – 380 BCE, Plato, Symposium 217e:

οἶνος [...] ἦν ἀληθής

oînos [...] ên alêthés

Wine is truthful. (in vino veritas)



[Lucretius and the Epicurean View That "All Perceptions are True" \(forthcoming, but still a DRAFT version\)](#)

The well-known and controversial thesis that «all perceptions are true» is endorsed by all Epicureans. At least three general interpretations of it have been...

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PS: So, the etymology is something like "not concealed" or "not forgetful" but etymology doesn't always equal definition 1:1. As LSJ says for αληθής: "*unconcealed, so true, real, opp. false*" So, the opposite of αληθής is "false" ψευδής not "hidden."

Trivia: The River of Forgetfulness in the Underworld is named Λήθη Lethe.