

Why was Epicurus condemned to the sixth circle of hell in Dante's Divine Comedy?

Post by "Cassius" of January 7, 2019 at 11:39 AM

Ok I guess to be rigorous i have to say I disagree with LD's post because of the "entirely due to" clause! 😊

Definitely the denial of providence was huge, but I think the denial of an afterlife probably was at least as practical a reason for Epicurus to be condemned by religion, at least by the "priestly caste" part of religion, which uses punishment/reward in the afterlife as stick / carrot.

I've always wanted to read Dante but never found the time. I remember DeWitt referring to the punishment as more than just being in the sixth circle, but also including something about souls being confined in their coffins with their dead bodies (?)