

The Twelve Fundamentals - Discussion on Lucretius Today Podcast

Post by “Eikadistes” of June 20, 2022 at 8:42 AM

Clay provides at least two lists of ΣΤΟΙΧΕΙΩΜΑΤΑ (STOIKHEIOMATA), with very minor differences. Also, I note that Clay does not try to reconstruct the same ΔΩΔΕΚΑ ΣΤΟΙΧΕΙΩΣΕΙΣ (DODEKA STOIKHEIOSEIS) that De Witt does (the "Twelve"). He omits the *Propositions* about uniform atomic motion and the atomic swerve.

In *Paradosis and Survival* (12), he writes:

1. **“Nothing comes into being out of nothing.”** (EH 38.8-39.1, DRN I 145-150, 159-160)
2. **“Nothing is reduced to nothing.”** (EH 39.1-2, DRN I 215-218, 237)
3. **“The universe always was as it is and always will be.”** (EH 39.1-2, DRN II 294-307; V 359-363) (*Atomic Theory; Quantum Field Theory*)
4. **“The universe is made up of bodies and void.”** (EH 39.6-40.2, DRN I 418-428)
5. **“Bodies are atoms and their compounds.”** (EH 40.7-9, DRN I 483-486)
6. **“The universe is infinite.”** (EH 41.6-10, DRN I 958-1001)
7. **“Atoms are infinite in number and space extends without limit”** (EH 41.11-42.4, DRN I 1008-1020)
8. **“Atoms of similar shape are infinite in number, but the variety of their shapes is indefinite, not infinite.”** (EH 42.10-43.4, DRN II 522-527)
9. **“Atomic motion is constant and of two kinds.”** (EH 43.5-44.1, DRN II 95-102 [I 952])
10. **“Atoms share only three of the characteristics of sensible things: shape, weight, mass.”** (EH 54.3-6, DRN II 748-752)

In *Lucretius' Translation of Greek Philosophy* (35-39), Clay writes:

1. **“Nothing is created out of nothing”** (DRN I 145-150, 159-160)
2. **“Nothing is reduced to nothing.”** (DRN I 215-218, 237)
3. **“The universe is made up of two components: body and void.”** (DRN I 418-428)
4. **“Body is understood as atoms and their compounds.”** (DRN I 438-486)

5. “Atoms share only three of the characteristics of sensible things: shape, weight, mass.” (DRN II 748-752)

6. “Atomic motion is constant and of two kinds.” (DRN I 952)

7. “The universe is infinite.” (DRN I 958-864)

8. “The atoms are infinite in number, and space extends without limit.” (DRN 1008-1020)

9. “Atoms of similar shape are infinite in number, but the variety of their shapes is indefinite, not infinite” (DRN I 1008-1020)

Clay also has a slightly different version in *Lucretius and Epicurus*, but I do not have access to it. They are essentially the same, but Clay never presents the same list in the same order twice.