

# Episode One Hundred Thirty-Four - The Letter to Menoecus 01- Context and Opening of the Letter

Post by “Cassius” of August 2, 2022 at 8:55 AM

Couple of notes here as we begin the letter to Menoecus:

(1) Since the material here is so dense and so important, we probably ought to take it fairly slowly, and try to divide it up by topic, so the text this week is a little shorter than normal. This week contains the introduction and the call to pursue happiness, and what is essentially [PD01](#) as to the reason we believe that there are no supernatural gods controlling the universe.

(2) I will try to post these further in advance than in the past. I want to see [Don's work on the translation](#) entered here into the thread for each week, but I am not sure yet whether it is best (and he has the time) for Don to paste it in the thread and add any additional comment he has, or whether I will paste it here. If Don doesn't paste it here before long then I will do so. 😊

(3) I especially want us as we discuss these to keep in mind what we've previously read and discussed in Lucretius and in the letters to Herodotus and Pythocles as discussed in our prior podcast episodes. It seems to me too many people go straight to this letter and think that it contains all they need to know about Epicurean ethics, so both in the podcast and in the discussion I hope we can spend a lot of time relating what we are reading here to what we know from other sources.