

Epicureans On Kingship

Post by "Elli" of August 4, 2022 at 4:10 AM

If we examine both exhortations by Epicurus on the wise man, we see that:

- a) The wise man will give lectures in public only if asked.
- b) The wise man will serve a monarch when occasion requires.

IMO for an epicurean to involve with any public political affairs, it is an issue ONLY IF is asked!

The greek word "θεραπεύω" has several meanings e.g. a) I am in the service of someone b) I heal someone c) I appease someone for setting him in the right position.

The word "θεραπεύω" does not mean "pay court to" since this phrase includes "flattery" and I am not quite sure that Epicurus would use this phrase with such meaning. Since, epicureans are not flatterers like Plato that was the flatterer of the King Dionysus in Syracuse. HA 😊

If you connect that the wise man will give lectures in public only IF asked, then the wise man will serve or appease or heal (through philosophical exhortations) a king only if asked. Because an epicurean feels pleasure if he corrects/heals someone OR if he is being corrected/healed by someone else. So simple, I suppose!

Here is an historical fact of the epicurean Cineas that was a consultant/advisor to the King Pyrrhus.

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