

Welcome C. Florius Lupus!

Post by "C. Florius Lupus" of January 18, 2019 at 10:50 AM

Thank you for the warm welcome.

I learned about Epicurus first in our philosophy class in school. However our philosophy teacher, although a wise man otherwise, was no friend of Epicurean philosophy and used to disprove him from the viewpoint of Christian theology, which in itself is inspired by Stoicism.

So it took me many years to rediscover Epicurus, to a not insignificant part thanks to your books, Cassius.

To me Epicurus is the most amazing of all Greek and even modern philosophers. He makes no arbitrary assumptions like the Stoics or Platonists. Everything is based on empirics and logical deduction.

This is not only important for Epicurean ethics, but especially for physics. Epicurus is the only one of the ancient philosopher whose teachings about physics have not become obsolete with modern scientific discoveries. He did not only foresee modern particle physics, but also quantum mechanics with no other tools than precise observation and applied reason.

Epicurus' ethics that does not rely on transcendental premises could serve as a smallest common denominator for all human beings to agree upon and live peaceful and in harmony without fanaticism, which results from ambitious, but unprovable assumptions.

This is what I find so fascinating about Epicurus.

So far I have only read an English translation of Lucretius' "De Rerum Natura" many years ago, but I have improved my knowledge in Latin meanwhile, so that I will try to read it in the original version, as soon as I find time.

I am happy that I have found likeminded people here in this forum.

P.S.: My user name is the Latinized version of my name. It was given to me when joining Nova Roma some years ago.