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Post by “waterholic” of September 29, 2022 at 10:17 AM

[Quote from Don](#)

By "modern" do you mean contemporary, modern science communicators or modern figures that present "Epicurean" ideas whether or not they identify specifically as Epicurean?

Indeed Don, I did not mean modern interpretations of Epicurean ideas, but rather a **contemporary** language. That's a better word.

[Quote from Don](#)

That said, I also think there's something very valuable in reading "old texts"

I will not argue with that at all. The greatest impact of everything I read was that many of the questions and answers were available to us for thousands of years, and yet we chose to forget, give up, give in to tradition, superstition and brute force of bigotry. It is painful and useful to know.

But now I imagine myself in front of my 20 something son, who lives in the world of all the social media, gaming, basketball, memes (you can add to the list). Should I expect him to have the same patience and curiosity? If not, then do I give up on him and concentrate only on people who have the predisposition to philosophy?

Certainly we cannot abandon the old texts, but I believe they are not for everyone, at least in the beginning. At the same time I totally agree that it's difficult to convey the whole body of knowledge in a simple form, but Epicureans have always attempted that!

[Quote from Don](#)

"Stoics" have managed to corner the market on "look at this ancient wisdom we're selling."

I believe this is not (only) due to the effective communication. Stoicism has been merged with most despotic states since Rome. It has always been an extremely convenient philosophy for the central state alongside any superstition. Consequently, most governments, ancient or contemporary, have been in support of stoicism. Epicureanism, on the other hand, has always been highly inconvenient for the state. In the end, any sovereign would much rather have an army of stoics ready to do the duty (however that duty is defined by the state) than a bunch of

people who just want to be happy (and probably left alone).

[Quote from Don](#)

All that said, if I've addresses something you didn't intend or completely misinterpreted what you were saying, mea culpa! 😊

No worries at all, heated arguments are more than welcome. I don't claim I know the answer and I very much appreciate the chance to look at other facts and opinions in order to change mine.