

# New Article on the Inscription (And the "Bitter Gift" Misattribution)

Post by "Don" of October 3, 2022 at 7:24 PM

[Quote from Kalosyni](#)

Maybe [Joshua](#) has some insights, as I see a reference to "bitter gift" from an Ancient Greek tragedy Hippolytus by Euripides ("bitter gift" of Poseidon):

<https://books.google.com/books?id=s7wvD...polytus&f=false>

Oh, this is fun! That line is also translated:

Hippolytus

Poseidon your father's gifts, what woe they brought!

In Greek:

Ἰππόλυτος

ὦ δῶρα πατρὸς σοῦ Ποσειδῶνος πικρά.

That last word of the Greek πικρά "bitter" is the same word that shows up in Democritus's quote about "by convention" we've been discussing elsewhere.

So, ὦ δῶρα πικρά. is literally "the bitter gift."