

Episode One Hundred Forty-Five - Part 01 (Chapter 1 of Epicurus And His Philosophy)

Post by “Kalosyni” of October 24, 2022 at 7:18 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

Kalosyni's comment to the effect that a simple "atheist" perspective is not nearly sufficient as a full worldview. That's an important benefit that Epicurus can bring to people who know enough to reject supernatural religion, but who don't know where to go from there and think that Western philosophy offers them nothing.

I attended an atheist weekly "meetup" just a few times (before Covid hit) and it was mainly just socializing (but awkwardly) and drinking beer since the group met at a pub. Their activism was to have a banner hung in downtown Eugene at Christmastime, in competition with the Christians who hung up something like "Jesus is the reason for the season". The atheist banner was "Celebrate the Solstice" (if I remember correctly). It seemed that science and technology were common topics (not too much time actually talking about atheism).

At the very end of this podcast I said something about Epicureanism being halfway between atheism and agnosticism, but I don't think that is really correct. It really is very different, and I think we need to keep talking about it until we get a better idea of the religious environment that Epicurus lived in (festivals were part of the social fabric of Greece), as compared to our current times of monotheism (our US money still says "In God We Trust"). We may be more free in some ways and less free in other ways. We hold a similar place as atheists, and yet we stand up for things (rather than just being anti-religious). In Epicureanism there are life-enhancing ideas worth sharing with others.