

Epicurus' Birthday 2023 - (The Most Comprehensive Picture Yet!)

Post by "Don" of November 24, 2022 at 10:38 AM

[Quote from Nate](#)

That's an excellent find, Don that I think definitely explains the discrepancy.

Thanks, @Nate . That means a lot coming from you!

I wanted to share a couple words that struck me in that section of the Will too. The translation runs:

for the meeting of all my School held every month on the twentieth day to commemorate Metrodorus and myself according to the rules now in force.

This sounds so sterile to me, so I looked at the text. There we can find:

ὡςπερ καὶ εἰς τὴν γινομένην σύνοδον ἐκάστου μηνὸς ταῖς εἰκάσι τῶν συμφιλοσοφούντων ἡμῖν εἰς τὴν ἡμῶν τε καὶ Μητροδώρου <μνήμην> κατατεταγμένην.

συμφιλοσοφούντων ἡμῖν (symphilosophountōn hēmin) something literally like "our (not my) fellow "lovers of wisdom"/philosophers" That seems warmer than "school"

σύνοδον (synodon) from sym "with" (as in "sympathy", same sym- as above) + hodos "path, way" This is the word "synod" we know from Christianity. This is the "meeting" in the translation, but I like the connotation of "coming together with others on the path/way."

Those two words for me provide much more color to Epicurus's last will than the usual dry translation.