

Keen Reasoning Based on the Evidence of the Senses

Post by "Cassius" of November 28, 2022 at 8:07 PM

I think I understand and I do respect where you are coming from on "certainty" Pacatus. I think the question of wording has to depend on the audience we are addressing at a particular time, much as Don referenced in his recent post in this thread.

Due to the corruption of language there doesn't seem to be a way to get around the need to explain our terms pretty much no matter what term we use.

In this section of Lucretius there are no doubt various words that could be used to convey the intended meaning.....

But the anxiety that the skeptics will have with these formulations will always be present too, and I am afraid that is a problem that can be improved with explanations, but can't be addressed by using the same words with all audiences. And if the skeptics cling to a P=1.0 requirement for holding that there is no hell -- and no doubt some will! - then I am afraid they are providing exactly the type of example of a self-limitation on happiness that Epicurus is warning against.