

Letter to Menoikeus translation by Peter Saint-Andre

Post by "Don" of May 31, 2023 at 7:32 AM

I can't seem to let this go. I searched this morning for other uses of κείμενας in Diogenes Laertius plus I found 2 uses of the specific phrase τας κειμενας in Demosthenes and Diogenes Laertius:

τὰς κειμένας

1. (those) deposited (Demosthenes, Against Olympiodorus 48:17)

2. (those) deposited (Diogenes Laertius 5:3:64)

ἐν ᾗ κείμενα θεωρεῖται

"where they are seen to be." (ie, stars) (Diogenes Laertius 10:112; letter to Pythocles)

τὰ αὐτὰ δίκαια κείμενα, (Diogenes Laertius 10:153; [PD38](#))

"for the same things *as they are*" (see [http://wiki.epicurism.info/Principal Doctrine 38/](http://wiki.epicurism.info/Principal_Doctrine_38/))

And ἐν ἀπολαύσει consistently means "in pleasure"; "enjoyment" whether in Ancient Greek pagan texts or Biblical references.

In that light of day, I don't know if I'm as persuaded by [Little Rocker](#)'s conjecture. (Sorry) Although I may now be more confused than before!

I do think some translators skip over the ambiguity of the line and simply put it what they want to see or expect to see with their preconceptions of Epicurus's philosophy.