

Lucretius' Expressions of Epicurus' Atomoi

Post by “Joshua” of June 3, 2023 at 5:42 PM

I see that μέρος (along with ὁμοῖος) is part of the word homeomeria, the idea that everything that exists is made of little particles like itself. Bone is made of bone particles, fire of fire particles, wood of wood particles, etc.

This in contrast to the ideas of the atomists, who thought that a finite set of atomic types, with an infinite number of each type, made up everything and granted their attributes to the compounds they were part of.

It was this latter idea that George Santayana described as "perhaps the greatest thought that mankind has ever hit upon."