

"Not Neo-Epicurean, But Epicurean"

Post by "Eikadistes" of June 18, 2023 at 12:17 PM

Just a loose thought: there seems to be a general accusation of (ignorant or insensitive) inerrant Epicurean fundamentalism expressed by Philodemus taught by his teacher Zeno of Sidon. By this time, all the original Epicureans had died and the remnants of the tradition were being preserved in memory, so the question of literary canon became (inevitably) a point of question and contention, and it seems that there were those, like Zeno and Philodemus, who accepted a "nuanced" and "between-the-lines" sort of interpretation of Epicurus, versus those "fundamentalists" who (according to Philodemus) over-relied on an unnecessarily-literal interpretation of Epicurus' vocabulary ... so in accordance with Philodemus, perhaps "*Bibliakoi*" is inappropriate since Philodemus seems to be using it as a derogation or slur.

All of this (again) brings me back to *phantastiken epibolen tes dianoias* and the question of canonic.