

# Episode 188 - "Epicurus And His Philosophy" Part 40 - Chapter 15 - Extension, Submergence, & Revival 03

Post by "Cassius" of August 23, 2023 at 5:31 PM

Here's a new thread for Celsus. [General Bio of Celsus and the Possibility that the Celsus Who Wrote "The True Word" was not the Celsus who was friend of Lucian](#)

As Joshua points out in this episode, DeWitt comes down on the side that the two people are the same, and says that the questioning arises from the view that the writer is too smart to be an Epicurean. This is an instance where I am not so sure DeWitt is right, because it seems in my (long ago) reading I too thought that the writer seemed to be talking about gods being actively involved in human affairs, and if so I would think that would mark him clearly as non-Epicurean.

But it was years ago when I read that and I may not at the time have appreciated some of the subtleties of the Epicurean position that people do benefit from having proper opinions about the gods, so perhaps I was reading Celsus too narrowly. Whichever is the case, Celsus seems to be regarded as among the first anti-Christian writers, so he deserves our attention for many reasons, even if he was not fully orthodox Epicurean. No doubt there is a lot of stuff in Celsus that it would profit us to talk about, just like there is in Lucian's anti-Christian "Death of Peregrine"

[The Death of Peregrine | De Morte Peregrini \[The Lucian of Samosata Project\]](#)