

VS29 - Interpreting VS29

Post by "Don" of September 14, 2023 at 8:04 PM

FYI: χρησμοδεῖν =

A. *deliver oracles, prophesy*, [Hdt.7.6](#), [Ar.Eq.818](#) (anap.), [Pl.Cra.396d](#); [τι X.Ap.30](#); [τισι Pl.Ap.39c](#); "[τὰ συμφέροντα](#)" *Epicur. Sent.Vat.29*; "[χ. ἐμμέτρως](#)" *Plu.2.623c*:—Pass., "[κεχρησμοδήσθω](#)" [Pl.Lg.712a](#); "[τὰ κεχρησμοδημένα](#)" [Id.Ep.323c](#).

II. *Pass., to be inspired, receive a divine revelation*, *Ph.2.384*.

When Epicurus says he would prefer to speak in an oracular fashion and frankly ([VS29](#) uses [παρησιᾶ](#) *parrhesia* "Frank speech") is he talking about the cryptic way in which oracles spoke? He prefers to convey his teaching on nature as he sees fit even if some don't understand and he doesn't "reap the showers of praise"?

Wasn't Epicurus's mother a purveyor of charms and oracles?