

# **Polemic Against the Stoic Theology**

**Post by “Matt” of March 25, 2019 at 3:42 PM**

I have never taken the Modern Stoic position of “virtue for the sake of virtue” seriously.

It’s clear that Chrysippus and Cleanthes applied a certain benevolent personality trait to their vision of Providence. However, once it is deconstructed down to undifferentiated bare pantheism that it really is, you end up with the same dilemma as the MoStos.

Basically they call the universe “god” yet that word is an unnecessary and inappropriate name to give the universe if it does not have its own agency and autonomy. It’s just “nature” or the “universe.”

I believe Richard Dawkins once called pantheism a “sexed-up” version of atheism. I fundamentally agree. There is no special function the the universe performs other than what it normally does. Just ascribing the title of deity to it does not make it a god.