

[Historical Records] from The Epicurean Philosophy Facebook Group

Post by "Cassius" of May 3, 2015 at 1:12 PM

****THIS WEEK IN EPICUREAN PHILOSOPHY - 05/09/2015****

** This is the one hundred and fifth in a series of weekly reports on news from the world of Epicurean Philosophy. Our home base for discussion is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/EpicureanPhilosophy/> Copies of these posts, and links to active Epicurean websites, are stored at EpicurusCentral.wordpress.com.

** As of tonight, our group has grown to 1684. Last week this time we were 1669. We continue to grow steadily, and we welcome all participants and lurkers. If you apply to participate and don't receive a reply promptly, please send an email to an admin about your interest in the group. We are here to discuss Epicurean Philosophy, have fun, and in the words of Lucian, "strike a blow for Epicurus - that great man whose holiness and divinity of nature were not shams, who alone had and imparted true insight into the good, and who brought deliverance to all that consorted with him!"

**Every week I say we have lots of excellent discussion, and this week is not only no exception, it was almost too full to do justice here. Before I get started, I mentioned last week that I would soon have an announcement for a new initiative to help preserve some of the content we are generating on Facebook. That's not quite ready to go, but it will be soon. In the meantime, here are the week's highlights:

**We had a discussion this week of dating the current year (2015) in terms that would be recognizable to Lucretius and Epicurus. It seems tha Lucretius would name this year as (2768 AUC) but with Epicurus we got a number of different answers (2091 and 2768). So we may still need more work on that. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...25973464118282/>

**Elli posted a graphic on VS 41: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...26400777408884/>

**Prompted by a post by Alexander Rios, I posted "Fields, Particles, and the Reality We Live In." <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...26486014067027/> Also: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...26413944074234/>

**Also this week Hiram and Alexander posted an excellent Spanish-language interview they gave. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...26325070749788/> That prompted me to write "Setting the Stage for the Discussion of Pleasure." <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...26556700726625/>

**Elli posted a graphic on [PD33](#), which says that justice has no independent existence.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...26486637400298/>

**Doug B. posted on "Is it depressing or empowering to think of life as a performance?"
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...26677037381258/>

**Elli posted on the very difficult VS62 - the one about the anger between parents and children. This is one that is not discussed often enough:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...26666660715629/>

**Doug B. also contributed as link to a paper by Bernard Frischer with an imposing title, but is essentially about recruitment among the ancient Epicureans.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...26703304045298/>

**Hiram posted a review of his book by blogger Tom Church.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...26785464037082/>

**In the first of several related posts, this week, we talked about the issues involved in promoting unadulterated Epicureanism here:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...26412780741017/>

**I.V. reminded us of the "Epicurean Year" project.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27036987345263/>

**Elli posted two great graphics paraphrasing Diogenes of Oinoanda: Here
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27096677339294/> and also here:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27126447336317/>

**Uwe F. started a good conversation on euthymia which also involved the Phaeacian analogy from Homer. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...26774200704875/>

**Jason B. started "What should Epicureans eat?"
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27128484002780/>

**Elli continued her graphic creation this week with a reference to Lucian's Hermetimus:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27242810658014/>

**And in another post dealing with differences between Epicurus and Stoicism, I posted a graphic excerpt from "Happiness: A philosopher's Guide" which did a good job of summarizing basic tenets of Stoicism, which allowed for a clear contrast.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...26859490696346/>

**And Elli continued the graphics with "A Philosophy For Marbles"
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27282057320756/>

**Ioannis A. posted a good short animated clip which Elli described as "slaves to the slavers"
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27366720645623/>

**Yesterday I posted to a clip from Francois Bernier, a friend of Gassendi, who tried to reconcile what the Stoics had said about Epicurus with what he thought was a correct understanding of Epicurus. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27382237310738/>

**Alexander R linked to "More sex doesn't lead to increased happiness." <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27426840639611/>

**I linked to John Lennon's "Imagine" and asked if we could imagine a world truly based on Epicurean pleasure. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27462133969415/>

**With some good assistance from friends, we discussed here how to use the PERSEUS website to find every instance of the word "ataraxia" in their extensive Greco-Roman library. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27467220635573/>

**Alexander R. linked to a table showing "Epicurus vs. Mohammed" in physics. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27683320613963/>

**Hiram linked to "Atoms Here, Atoms There, Atoms Everywhere: Fields or Particles" <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...26464474069181/>

**Elli started an excellent discussion on VS78 with a graphic. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27669747281987/>

**And again I swatted at the hornet's nest with "Why Do I Speak Harshly About Stoicism?" <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27159647332997/>

**Thanks to Uwe F. we started a discussion on the opening of Book I of Lucretius and the meaning of the Venus/Mars symbolism. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27783143937314/>

**And in the most recent post before this goes to press, I posted my latest explanation of Epicurean Philosophy Through Coffee - "Pleasure is a Dish best served Pure and Smooth." <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Epicure...27756357273326/>

**Those are most of the highlights for the week. Thanks to all who participated. We've had another very substantive week of discussion, and I thank everyone who participated. Feel free to post any comments in this thread. I apologize if I missed anyone or anything. As always, if you have any comments, questions, or suggestions, please add a comment or participate in the Epicurean Philosophy Facebook Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/EpicureanPhilosophy/> or hop around the internet world of Epicurean Philosophy by checking the links here: EpicurusCentral.wordpress.com

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Live Well!

Cassius Amicus