

Welcome Novem!

Post by “Don” of November 3, 2023 at 10:06 PM

Welcome aboard! What a great introductory post. I wanted to respond to a couple of your points.

Personally, I think Emily Austin's book is the best introduction to Epicurus's philosophy available right now. I hope you enjoy the podcast episodes. She was great fun to talk to! While Emily's book is a little light on the physics and epistemology of the philosophy, she does include enough, and she provides a solid, balanced approach and backs it all up with a conversational and approachable style. I also highly recommend her article:

Are the Modern Stoics Really Epicureans?

[Are the Modern Stoics Really Epicureans? | History News Network](#)

[Quote from Novem](#)

I also like how very close Epicureanism's scientific theories and conjectures are to modern atomic physics and evolutionary theory, and its overall materialism.

That was one of the facets that attracted me as well.

[Quote from Novem](#)

the gods are real (made of matter) and are the embodiments of Epicurean ideals who live far away from the conglomerations of matter, not hurt or pleased from human vice or virtue, and religion makes us think otherwise.

If you stick around (and I hope you will) you'll find I'm one of the one's who take a more metaphorical approach to the gods (like that espoused by Dr. David Sedley and others), not necessarily the majority view but I think there are texts to back it up. LOL! But that's probably a little far into the weeds for an introductory post.

So, feel free to ask questions, post your thoughts, and engage with the others on this path through the Garden.