

Please, no dogmatism, no absolute truths

Post by “Elli” of April 1, 2019 at 8:56 AM

Dogma = from the ancient Greek verb {δοκέω-δοκῶ} = dokeo-doko.



This verb has a number of different meanings and synonyms in the Greek language, such as:
"I believe, I think, I consider, I guess, I imagine, I hypothesize (=I suppose), I decide."

πιστεύω, νομίζω, θεωρώ, φρονώ, μαντεύω, φαντάζομαι, υποθέτω, αποφασίζω.

The same Greek verb is generally interpreted in religious discussion to mean: "I (strongly) believe, I guess, I imagine and I decide" (without evidence, due to an absolute revealed religious truth).

But this same Greek verb is generally interpreted in Greek philosophy as: "I think, I consider, I hypothesize (=I suppose) and I decide" (from a knowledge that I have acquired after observing evidence).

Thus, if some say to us that we are wrong to be dogmatists, we answer them by saying that they are making the mistake of using this verb according to its meaning in religion rather than in Greek philosophy, and that we are using the word as the ancient Greek philosopher Epicurus used it!

If some say to us that we are wrong to be orthodox, we answer them by saying that we are ortho = means right + doxes (=doctrines), which means we hold a system of teachings that we think,

