

Welcome BrainToBeing

Post by "BrainToBeing" of December 7, 2023 at 10:16 AM

Hi, I'm responding to the above "Welcome" and request for a post. So, let me start this way:

Decades ago I came across the following quote from Lucretius:

"But when the mind is excited by some more vehement apprehension, we see the whole soul feel in unison through all the limbs, sweats and paleness spread over the whole body, the tongue falter, the voice die away, a mist cover the eyes, the ears ring, the limbs sink under one; in short we often see men drop down from terror of mind; so that anybody may easily perceive from this that the soul is closely united with the mind, and, when it has been smitten by the influence of the mind, forthwith pushes and strikes the body." As a neurologist, I thought: "That is the most insightful description of stress biology I've ever seen, and it was penned 2000 years ago!" I referenced the quote a number of times. (It did not reference the complex relationship between stress and pain; but, pain was not a popular discussion then as it is now.) Then I lost it. Only a short time ago I found it again - regaining a lost friend. And, recently I found your website with it.

While our technology has evolved dramatically, our philosophy has not kept pace. And, it amazing (to me at least) how insightful the early philosophers were. Certainly, we can see that with the dramatic expansion of our knowledge some of the perspectives of these brilliant, "elder statesmen" minds have not stood up to new wisdoms. Yet, that does not detract from their insights. Rather, in my opinion, it gives us insight into what may be concluded based on the information they had, versus what can be concluded based on the information we have. And, it puts into focus the importance of education which is focused on perspectives rather than just small facts.

Anyway, thanks for the invitation to say something. I'll be interested to see what the rest of you say!

Regards,

John