

Are the Gods Totally Painless? Does Calling Us To "Continuous Pleasure" Mean Totally Painless?

Post by "Cassius" of April 2, 2019 at 8:54 PM

As for daemons, which in current belief occupied a place intermediate between gods and men, we have the statement of Plutarch that Epicureans exhibited impatience if anyone asserted their existence.⁴⁵ In the language employed it is implied that this rejection would be on the grounds of both physics and logic. Here also the reasoning can be readily supplied. Under terrestrial conditions, in which these daemons were believed to live, it would have been inconceivable according to the teachings of Epicurus for a divine being to survive; only in the intermundia, where the forces of preservation remained superior to the forces of destruction, would this have been possible. As for the logical grounds of rejection, if once the doctrine of the sanctity and dignity of

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the gods be accepted, it would be inconceivable that divine beings would lower themselves to such a vulgar function as trailing after human beings to control their fortunes. The daemon of Socrates himself must have been a subject of ridicule to Epicureans.