

Further Thoughts On Science And Epicurean Philosophy

Post by "BrainToBeing" of January 11, 2024 at 1:22 PM

[Quote from Nate](#)

Through a study of Epicurean Philosophy, I came to acknowledge that the human impulse to practice piety is natural, and that the idealization of role models as deities is an equally natural practice that we observe in disconnected human societies

Thanks @Nate , very good entry!

So, indeed, "came to acknowledge that the human impulse to practice piety is natural." Yet, we can ask why it is natural. One possibility is that we do somehow sense a bigger sentience than our own at work. Possible, not proven.

There is another possibility. It could be that all religions and "the impulse to practice piety" are basically derivatives and metaphor of the parent-child relationship. It is proven neurobiology that our behavioral constructs operate, in broad overview, in the "onion" metaphor - layers built upon one another. Unquestionably we see that behavioral constructs formed in childhood ramify into adulthood. Some of this is the foundation of prejudice. Some of this is the foundation of personality styles. Some of this is the foundation for career choices. Some of this is the foundation of likes and dislikes.

One our very earliest and most fundamental behaviors is to look for caregivers as the source of support and solace. A baby's first impulse is to cry - a behavior of no utility if there is no expectation that someone will listen. We grant caregivers priority in our choices and behaviors until about age 2, at which point a personalized "self" begins to advocate for authority.

So, this fundamental behavioral paradigm - seeking solace and support from a more powerful "other" - is built in. You may take it from there.

Cheers