

# Pros and Cons Of Considering Epicurean Philosophy To Be A "Religion"

Post by "Cassius" of January 22, 2024 at 9:24 AM

Let's get out in front of some questions that people might ask about [Nate's Hedonicon video](#). For example:

## [Quote from Nate](#)

Second, I did it to consecrate (what I call) *my religion*.

What is an appropriate answer to someone who would criticize the idea of seeing Epicurean philosophy as a "religion?"

The answer would probably involve first dealing with the old problem of definitions and talk about what it means to be a "religion."

1. What is a fair definition of a "religion?"
2. Does the definition of religion itself require that all religions be "bad," or is it possible to have a "good" religion?
3. Did the ancient Epicureans see their own views of the gods as "true religion," or something else?
4. They clearly contended that having correct views about the gods is important.
5. Did they have "practices" that were a necessary part of those views?
6. Did those views and/or practices constitute a "religion?"
7. What relation should ancient Epicurean practices have on Epicureans today?

Another question would be:

1. If Epicurean philosophy were viewed as analogous to a religion, would there be "denominations" within the "religion?"
2. To what extent would the religion be "uniform" across all Epicureans?