

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

Post by "Don" of January 24, 2024 at 11:35 AM

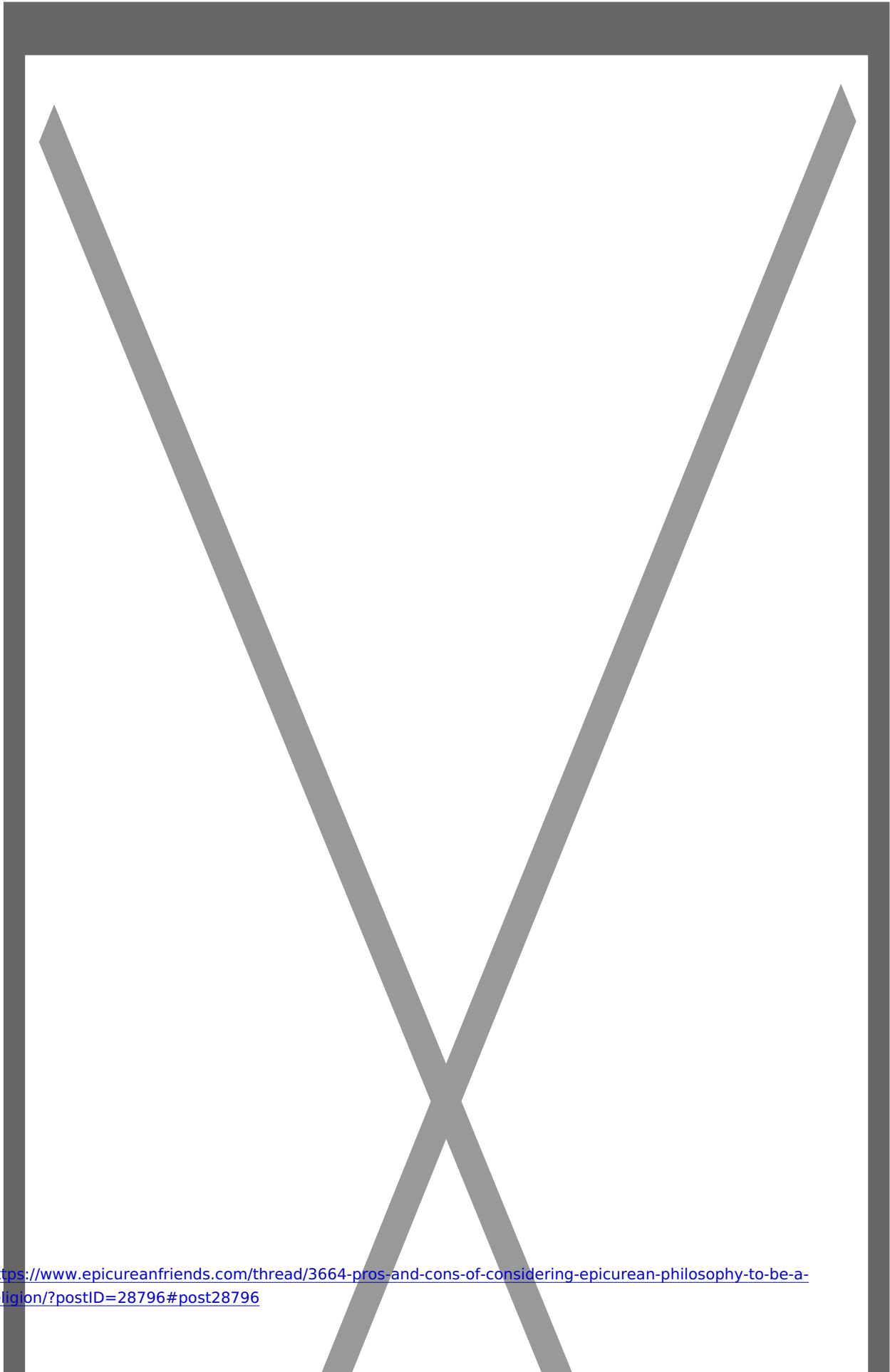
[Quote from Nate](#)

Where does that leave the word "Superstitio" in relation to "Pietas" and "Religio"?

And, as a further point, why did Lucretius not use "Superstitio"?

This helps...

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<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/3664-pros-and-cons-of-considering-epicurean-philosophy-to-be-a-religion/?postID=28796#post28796>

[Glossary of ancient Roman religion - Wikipedia](#)

en.wikipedia.org

superstitio

Superstitio was excessive devotion and enthusiasm in religious observance, in the sense of "doing or believing more than was necessary", or "irregular" religious practice that conflicted with Roman custom. ...Before the Christian era, superstitio was seen as a vice of individuals.

Lucretius' opposition to religio in favor of pietas conveys to me possibly the difference between outward "proper" performance of rituals expected of one versus the inward reason for performing those rites and rituals. Epicurus took part in the rites, festivals, and rituals of his city BUT with the proper inward piety.