

What Epicurus Offers To The Modern World As Of April, 2024?

Post by “TauPhi” of April 26, 2024 at 7:08 AM

[Quote from Don](#)

It seems to me that one could make a personal commitment to "obey Epicurus, according to whom we/I have chosen to live..." And the Philodemus does use πειθαρχέω "obey one in authority." This doesn't mean "blind faith" to me. It seems to me that that gets at the ideas that "I believe Epicurus knew what he was talking about."

I'm thinking about this sentence for few minutes now and I can't see how obeying someone in authority is not 'blind faith'. To me, that's exactly it. If I give someone authority over my own life and obey them, that means I acknowledge someone else is better at living my life. And I hit yet another religion head-on at 100 miles an hour. The whole Philodemus' quote has a striking resemblance to: 'My god is better than your god'.

"I believe Epicurus knew what he was talking about." seems to me something entirely different. It means to me: 'Hey, this dude came up with something interesting that has potential to be beneficial in my life. Let's test it out and see if that's the case'.

Another thought came to my mind while typing all this. Maybe I am completely wrong about ancient Epicureanism. During my study of it all this piousness seems to be coming back notoriously and sticking like a chewing gum to a shoe. Maybe Epicureanism was not intended as a guide for people trying to come up with their own recipes for their lives. Maybe Epicureanism was designed as yet another concealed ideology for people who are perfectly fine with buying a cookbook and never stray from its content.