

# Youtube Video Discussing Cicero's "On The Nature of The Gods" (Classical Wisdom Podcast)

**Post by "Cassius" of May 29, 2024 at 11:54 AM**

Good catch kochie. It wasn't clear to me whether he meant something like "true Epicureanism is so ascetic that it isn't possible for a normal person to follow," or rather "if you don't have the thread of hell or the promise of heaven hanging over your head then the normal person doesn't have the willpower to follow it" or rather something else. Maybe if I had seen his facial expression I would have a better idea but I was just listening at the time.

My take from listening was that he genuinely did not sound hostile to Epicurus, more on the order of "mystified" about what certain things meant. There was one part in particular where he said that there was something about the situation that he didn't understand and that he asked the professor to explain to him, but I can't recall exactly the context. But even if my memory is wrong on that, it was interesting to me that he didn't come across to me as a "true believer" either of Cicero's own viewpoint or of the Stoic viewpoint. Given that he's not a professional academic himself, he might well fit the mold of a lot of people who drop in around here, who find these topics fascinating and yet they know they've been told all their lives that they are not supposed to like Epicurus.

A vibe very similar to [that other podcast I posted recently from the Florida "Madisonian" professor who chose to focus on Hume but in doing so seemed to be surprised how much he agreed with Epicurus and Hume.](#)

I actually find both of these last two podcasts encouraging, in that neither are overtly pro-Epicurean, and probably both are oriented in favor of other philosophic positions, and yet both seemed to treat Epicurus in an unexpectedly (to them) favorable way.