

"Democracy, the worst form of government."

Post by "Don" of June 28, 2024 at 11:13 PM

I am woefully late to the game on this thread, but ****finally**** feeling well enough to wade (way) back into some of the the threads I missed.

One thought that came to mind reading this thread is that the word ["democracy" didn't mean exactly what we take it to mean today in Ancient Rome and Athens](#). ...although honestly there are some similarities, both positive and negative. Attempting to cleave to the "no politics" rule of this forum, I'll not go into details. But it seems Philodemus is especially concerned about the people - the hoi polloi, if you will - being able to be swayed by the rhetorical abilities of individuals skilled in the art of speech-making. < sarcasm > I'm glad that's not a concern anymore! < / sarcasm >

When it comes to Philodemus, I always like to go back and see what we're physically dealing with -- not just translation, but what physical remains are the translators working with. Toward that end...

[Website of Holger Essler](#)

And one example from that page: Philodemus: De rhetorica 1 (PHerc. 232, 234, 247, 250, 398, 426, 463, 1115, 1427, 1601, 1606, 1612, 1619, 1813), encoded by Claudio Vergara, Corinna Lang, Marcel Moser and Vanessa Zetzmann, revision by Vincenzo Damiani and Holger Essler (WCE)...

[DCLP/Trismegistos 62474 = LDAB 3650](#)

What I also find fascinating are some of the multi-spectral images of the papyri! fragment right N 1619 fr. 4 (=P.Herc. 1619) (Not a drawing but an actual photographic image. That's cool!)

