

The Absurdity of Absurdism (?)

Post by “Joshua” of July 5, 2024 at 6:19 PM

Quote

Joshua can you remind me what you said about the history of the question of the meaning of life?

The phrase *meaning of life* first appears in the record of English literature in a work of Thomas Carlyle called *Sartor Resartus*, published in 1833, and in the same text the speaker denounces atheism and hedonism.

Now if we take the *telos* of the greeks to signify 'meaning', the conversation is of course far older. I think this is a mistaken view of *telos*, but the real problem is that philosophical systems that value meaning are frequently vague about the term.

In my view, 'meaning' is nothing other than an alleged disease for which one purports to offer a cure. [This](#) blog (which I just discovered 5 seconds ago) is a nearly perfect explanation of my own view. Quote;

Quote

I'd maintain that, based on my casual observation, very few people conceive of a "meaning" to their lives, but simply, when asked the question, confect one post facto. That is, if asked that question, I would blather on about science, my friends, teaching evolution, traveling and seeing the world to enlarge my experience, and so on. But what I am doing is simply articulating the things that I like to do. I never think of these as the "meaning" of my life. In fact, I never think about that at all.

The pursuit of "meaning" is itself meaningless, in exactly the same way that repenting of "sin" is meaningless. Meaning isn't real, sin isn't real, the thetans of Scientology aren't real. Don't allow yourself to be made distressed by things that aren't real!