

What Did the Ancient Epicureans Think Were The Upper And Lower Limits of Atomic Size?

Post by “Martin” of September 6, 2024 at 1:06 PM

The ancients were certainly aware, that a piece of solid material could be ground such that the piece becomes smaller and the removed specs would still have color if visible or they were not visible, and that water evaporated without that they could see into what. It was straight forward to infer for Epicurus that the smallest spec still visible was not an atom and that atoms were smaller than to be seen with bare eyes. Moreover, his atoms did not have color, which adds to the impossibility to see them.