

# Clear But Not Convincing Evidence

Post by “Joshua” of October 21, 2024 at 11:53 PM

Quote

NOW we are getting into prolepsis. The number has changed from singular to plural, and Epicurus is making a claim that according to his philosophy can only be supported by one or more of the legs of the canon; either we know that the gods exist because of sensation, or because of feeling, or because of prolepsis, or by some combination of the three.

I find that I have to add something to this, because the principle of isonomia is not canonic, but is apparently used to justify asserting knowledge of the existence of a being. My ongoing problem with isonomia is that it seems to veer in the direction of the Ontological argument.

Also of note is the passage from Cicero wherein he suggests that an Epicurean would deny the existence of the sea if he had never seen it with his own eyes. On this point I would echo Christopher Hitchens; *extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence*. There's nothing extraordinary about water in quantity, so the existence of the sea can be provisionally accepted pending confirmation. The existence of ghosts would be extraordinary, and so merits skepticism.