

Episode One Hundred Forty - The Letter to Menoecus 07 - Completion of the Letter

Post by "Julia" of November 8, 2024 at 10:00 AM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

"give definite teaching and not profess doubt?" (Diogenes Laertius 121)

And you yourself always say that one has to keep in mind the entirety of the sources; when the evidence is insufficient, that doubt may well be expressed, eg in the form of multiple possible explanations. Again, this is more like maths, where there are countless unproven hypothesis and various theories about them, each with their own reasons for and against.

Contrast that to cults, organised religions, or contemporary ideologies: They claim their truth is absolute and complete. They claim to have it all figured out.

Epicurean philosophy is a dogma *in method*, from which content derives (like maths). Organised religion and modern ideologies are dogmas *in content*, which is simply declared and to be taken at face value. And just like mathematicians are to be dogmatic about $2+2=4$ and are to continue to profess that at every chance they get, so should we "never cease proclaiming the sayings of the true philosophy." The defining feature is not just knowing where you are, but also knowing how you arrived at where you are...

...to which Christianists would, of course, retort "I got here by reading the Bible", but I think you know what I'm getting at 😊 there is no need for trust, faith or believe in Epicurean philosophy (nor is there such a need in maths); there is no need for authority, hierarchy, power or a sense of superiority, either; not in the way this is true about cults, organised religions or modern ideologies.