

New Religious Landscape Study from Pew Research

Post by "Cassius" of February 28, 2025 at 4:34 PM

[Quote from Patrikios](#)

Then we can get into proper positioning of PD-5 about "living wisely, honorably, and justly" in order to live pleasantly. There can often be more agreement around that approach, before getting into the more controversial details around afterlife vs death's finality.

There's definitely a time and place for everything. As Titus said (which is reflected in the Lucian story of the Epicurean who almost got attacked by the local religious crowd) you have to be very careful what you say to very religious people, who frequently are very intolerant.

To me the big picture is that you have to look at your circumstances and do what makes the most sense. But in the end, after you look at your circumstances, you then act to change them if you can. As Epicurus says in the last of the PD's if you find yourself surrounded by people who have very different world-views from yours, you probably need to rethink how and where you are spending your time.

Of course we can't change everything about our circumstances in an instance, or overnight. But in the end the overriding consideration to me is that life is short, so we can't indefinitely delay the hard decisions that lead to the happiest living. To me it's a very big deal not to think that I was lazy or procrastinating or just didn't have enough courage to take the steps that would lead to the best life possible to me. In the past lots of people crossed oceans and deserts and mountains and gave up their lives looking for a "better life," and I'd like to think that I haven't become so "soft" that I'm not willing to make hard choices myself.