

Epicureanism as the spiritual essence or 'religion' of an entire community

Post by “Eikadistes” of March 27, 2025 at 10:02 AM

[Quote from Kalosyni](#)

I have some evidence that complicates things, and points to a possibility that Philodemus held different views than Epicurus did.

One other thing I want to suggest is that we should believe Philodemus, for *at least* two, good reasons: (1) Philodemus pre-dates the other source by 300 years, so he had better sources, (2) Diogenes, *himself*, relied on Philodemus' own biography on Epicurus, so Philodemus is the real source here.

(And, of course, the best source is Epicurus, in his own words, in *Menoikeus*).

Still though, I don't think there's a disagreement. I don't think Diogenes was suggesting that Epicurus was actually an atheist in one sentence in Book 2, when he spend pages and pages in Book 10 sharing Epicurus, in his own words, who makes point after point arguing against Theodorean atheism.