What fears does modern science remove, as Epicurean physics did in antiquity?

Post by “Don” of June 6, 2025 at 1:20 PM

On a slightly more serious note, inspired by Joshua 's post, I would offer that the paranormal and pseudoscience feed an answer to the question many seem to ask: *Is this all there is?*

That question presupposes there's something "less than" about our physical, natural, material universe. It's somehow "not enough". There has to be more than just this or nothing has any meaning.

For me, Epicurus (and I would offer, even the general secular and scientific perspective writ large) has an answer to that longing that "something more" in that it's not needed. The magnificence and multifarious nature of the universe is enough to feel awe and wonder.

It brings to mind: "since such a course is of service to *all who take up natural science*, I, who devote to the subject my continuous energy and *reap the calm enjoyment of a life like this, hav* e prepared for you just such an epitome and manual of the doctrines as a whole."

Gaze on Yosemite Valley, stare up at the stars at night, breathe in the air deep in the woods or the salt-spray off the ocean while standing on a cliff. Try telling me than that "Is this all there is?" Yes, this is it -- and *it* is magnificent!