

Sunday Zoom - August 17, 2025 - 12:30 PM ET - Topic: "All Sensations Are True"

Post by "Cassius" of August 17, 2025 at 2:49 PM

[Quote from Bryan](#)

Any "science" that uses math to try to explain away the observable is doing something fundamentally different -- and this path can lead to any conclusion. Even such things as the universe just popping into existence, or that matter is not fundamentally physical.

That is a better way of getting at what I tried to approach in my last question before we ran out of time. There are now, have been for 2000+ years, and will always be people who advocate for a new kind of knowledge that is difficult or impossible for people who are not initiated in the specialty to understand. The rub comes when people use string theory or any other system of thought to argue against the basic ability of humans to have adequate confidence in the fundamental conclusions of their senses and the logical implications of what the senses have established. In our day, most of the advocates of quantum and other experimentation seem to be atheists, so they do not jump to arguing that their experiments prove that there is a "god," as the mathematics of the size of the sun issue was used in the past.

Today the advocates of these theories seem to be content to argue that their experiments prove that there is nothing that we should have confidence in. To my observation, they don't often state an explicit agenda of their own, and they seem satisfied to undermine the confidence of confidence of anyone else (anyone who does not participate in their theories) in anything else. They do this in the name of "science," without stating any more specific agenda for "science" other than that it is they (the scientists) who alone are objective.

Regardless of what quantum mechanics or what any other subatomic experimentation will eventually establish, there is every reason to be confident that what it will establish will be completely in line with a totally natural universe which has no prime mover, no master plan, and no intentional teleology for the way humanity should live other than that which we are given through pleasure and pain.

I am firmly convinced that most subatomic scientists are totally benevolent in their motivations, and if Epicurus were alive today he would be every bit as interested in their research as he was in atomism 2000 years ago. But I am also firmly convinced that there is and always will be a class of people who will attempt to manipulate the discussion, just as they did in Epicurus' time, to take advantage of the disparity in knowledge between "experts" and ordinary people. And I am convinced that the record shows that Epicurus was completely alert to this tendency and instilled deeply into his philosophy an antidote to it.

And that antidote is the understanding that all human sensations are to humans true, and there is no otherworldly or metaphysical standard of truth, no matter whether the person making the claim has a doctorate in theology from the Vatican or a doctorate in particle physics from M.I.T.

For those who understand the importance of the issue, the sun is, has always been, and will always be the size that it appears to be.