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

Post by “Rolf” of August 20, 2025 at 5:05 PM

Plugged my thoughts into ChatGPT and it spat this out. Sounds fairly reasonable and, as far as I can tell, accurate. Sharing here as it may be helpful - don't hesitate to correct any inaccuracies.

AI-GENERATED CONTENT BELOW

Epicurean Physics vs. Quantum Mechanics

1. **Atoms and chance**
   - Epicurus posited that atoms move mostly according to necessity (deterministic paths) but occasionally **swerve**, introducing chance.
   - Quantum mechanics shows that **subatomic particles behave probabilistically**, which is essentially a modern analog of the “swerve.”
2. **Predictable macroscopic world**
   - Epicurus also observed that the world we experience is **stable and predictable**—trees grow where they should, apples remain apples.
   - Quantum randomness **does not contradict this**, because macroscopic objects are composed of **immense numbers of particles**, and the tiny uncertainties cancel out statistically.
3. **Chance and necessity coexist**
   - Both Epicurus and quantum mechanics support the idea that **some events happen by necessity, some by chance**.
   - Macroscopic determinism emerges from microscopic indeterminacy, meaning our everyday life remains **reliable and intelligible**.
4. **No need for mystical forces**
   - Quantum mechanics doesn’t imply supernatural or arbitrary interventions—it’s just **nature behaving probabilistically at small scales**.
   - This aligns with Epicurus’ insistence that **all phenomena are natural and understandable** through observation and reason.