

# Episode 255 - Cotta Argues That Epicurean Gods Are As Despicable As Are Epicureans Themselves - Cicero's OTNOTG 30

Post by “Pacatus” of October 12, 2025 at 3:05 PM

From the article cited by [Patrikios](#) :

"As David Hume, the 18th century Scottish philosopher, put it: Is God 'willing to prevent evil, but not able? Then he is impotent. Is he able, but not willing? Then he is malevolent. Is he both able and willing? Whence then is evil?'"

There is actually a fourth logical alternative (which I find terribly unpalatable, but which some Christians raised in some old discussions): The world is perfect as it is (in God's eyes) - and one less atrocity or baby suffering horribly from incurable disease, the world would be less perfect. These Christians also tend to blame all evil - including "natural evils" (as opposed to moral evils), such as hurricanes - on inherent human sinfulness ("original sin"). 😡😭