

New Youtube Video - "Epicurus Responding to His Haters" - October 2025

Post by "Cassius" of October 17, 2025 at 10:39 AM


Elli's comment on [Facebook](#):

Quote

Dear epicurean friend Cassius, your comment is invaluable - not merely insightful, but absolutely necessary. The image of Epicurus as a "drunken rogue" is not just a misunderstanding; it is a historical distortion. And no matter how humorous or technically polished the presentation may be, the essence remains: what is being promoted is a caricature that insults the philosophy of the Garden.

This video, however "well-made" it may be, reproduces a Buddhist-Stoic version of Epicurus, stripped of his active stance toward pleasure, pain, and life. Epicurus **#was #not #a #passive #ascetic** who "wants nothing so as not to suffer." He was a philosopher of choice, evaluation, and presence. His phrase "I would not know the meaning of the good without the stimulating pleasures" is not rhetorical flourish; it is an ontological position. And its omission from the video is not innocent, it is misleading.

So I ask: Who created this video? What is its intended purpose? Why choose to portray Epicurus as ridiculous, weak, and inconsistent? Why omit his clearest statements about pleasure, pain, and active living? Why reproduce a stereotype that even his ancient opponents did not dare to use?

Cicero and Plutarch, despite their disagreements, knew that his thought was coherent, radical, and dangerously compelling. In contrast, today we see "admirers" portraying him as a toga-party dropout spouting nonsense and collapsing from excess. That is not Epicurus. That is an insult.  Image not found or type unknown

And yes, as you said, the solution is not to reject the video outright, but to use it as a prompt to return to the texts, to the real experiences of life and to conscious choices. Because Epicurus was never "simplistic." He was clear, very clear. And his clarity is not deprivation, it is fullness without fear, leading us - with his philosophy - to genuine pleasure and freedom!