

# Reasoning through the Letter to Menoecus' On the Gods

Post by “Patrikios” of October 21, 2025 at 3:50 PM

Quote

David Sedley in his paper "[Epicurus' Theological Innatism](#)" places significance on the singular construction. Sedley proposed each person creates their own "god" which is why he stressed the importance of the singular form.

[Joshua](#) Thanks to your suggestion, I went back to re-read Sedley's paper on Innatism and the forming of a personal 'god'. This has helped to change my understanding of the basics of KD01. Sedley points to [Epicurus' Letter to Menoecus](#) where he advises readers to "consider god" and "attach to him" certain qualities. It appears to suggest we actively construct our own conception of a 'god' rather than discovering pre-existing beings. I now see how Sedley explains that we have an innate predisposition to form these divine images, but not because gods actually exist. Rather, we naturally tend to imagine beings that represent our own ideals of happiness and tranquility.

Is this a correct understanding of how to interpret how Epicurus referred to 'god(s)'?