

Welcome Tony Fox

Post by "Tony Fox" of November 24, 2025 at 9:57 AM

Letter to menoeceus

"The things that most people say about the gods are based on false assumption, not a firm grasp of the facts, because they say that the greatest goods and the greatest harms come from the gods."

Some myths affirm the immortality of the gods, but not their blissfulness. For example, in the myths, zeus gets enraged by prometheus for he stole the fire. In response he would have punished humanity by sending pandora.

The firm grasp of the facts, the basic understanding of the concepts, epicurus held about the gods, contradicts the myths. For in all the myths, the gods are troubled, and the heavens are unstable. In later religion, his view could be applied. A god could not concern himself with humanity, nor act as judge or saviour. He could not be wrathful, nor could he become himself human, as the christians believe. Indeed, if jesus christ was a god, he could not have suffered and died on the cross.

These myths relate to human affairs, but they would be alien to the immortal and blissful gods.

"because they say that the greatest goods and the greatest harms come from the gods."

All harms and goods are perceived through the senses. It is not the gods that make us taste bread or feel rain pour down our shoulders. Clearly we sense bread itself, and rain itself, this is what we feel, and is not the result of a creative mind.

If a green fire were to wreak havoc on california and the scientists had no explanation for his, I could blame all the gods having to do with fire, ra, gibil, agni, pele, xiuhtecuhtli, svarog, nyamhe, ogun, zhurang, jowangsin, amaterasu, odqan, arski tenger, turgmum, utar, alaz, aed, caca, huracán, tohil, jocaruitz, haashch'ééshzhiní, caricaueri', manqu, qhapaq, ti'iti'i, ngá mánuwa and aahitúoa. Clearly it's impossible to say who of the gods interfered, clearly, this isn't very usefull. We can't sense what gods were or were not involved, but what we sense is the green fire, and multible natural causes are possible.

"For since they are at home with what is best about themselves, they accept that which is similar and consider alien that which is different."

I have a question about this phrase. What is meant with 'the best'? Are the gods sometimes more blissful than usual? Else they could not have a 'best'. If the gods are blissful, do they still have degrees of pleasure?