

Welcome Tony Fox

Post by "Cassius" of November 24, 2025 at 10:07 AM

[Quote from Tony Fox](#)

"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."

You seem to be using a translation I don't normally see but is it not clear that this statement refers to the false opinions of the masses, not to the gods themselves?

The main surviving text which would give much basis at all to speculate about this would be the Velleius section of "On the Nature of the Gods" and I'd put that question in the category of things that would not be essential to the central conclusions to be drawn from anticipations -- and therefore hazardous to conjecture about. So I'd put all this in the section that starts and not put a lot of significance on the the answer to that question:

"If we sought to attain nothing else beside piety in worshipping the gods and freedom from superstition, what has been said had sufficed; since the exalted nature of the gods, being both eternal and supremely blessed, would receive man's pious worship (for what is highest commands the reverence that is its due); and furthermore all fear of the divine Power or divine anger would have been banished (since it is understood that anger and favor alike are excluded from the nature of a being at once blessed and immortal, and that these being eliminated we are menaced by no fears in regard to the powers above). But the mind strives to strengthen this belief by trying to discover the form of god, the mode of his activity, and the operation of his intelligence.

[EpicureanFriends Side-By-Side Velleius On Divinity](#)