

Epicurus vs Kant and Modern Idealism - Introduction

Post by “Martin” of March 22, 2026 at 2:56 AM

The rejection of both plain rationalism and plain empiricism is an overlap between Epicurus and Kant.

Kant replaced them with a unified epistemology drawing from parts of both of them. Based on his new approach to epistemology, scientists usually present their theories as models of reality instead of truth on reality.

Epicurus replaced rationalism and empiricism with another unified epistemology within which the most basic theories still claim truth on reality. This claim is an unproven belief which is akin to religion and Platonism and not necessary for a materialist world view.

A philosophy which rejects Plato's idealism more profoundly and does not make superfluous claims on truth is more convincing. Under this aspect, my choice is Kantian instead of Epicurean.