

Epicurus vs Kant and Modern Idealism - Introduction

Post by "Cassius" of April 3, 2026 at 6:48 AM

[Quote from Martin](#)

My reference to being "Kantian" is limited to him as being named as the original source of the distinction between a model and truth.

if you are correct Kant is apparently saying that truth is never possible, on "models," some of which work better than others. I believe Epicurus would say that this is effectively the same thing as saying that "nothing can be known" just using different terminology.

[Quote from Eikadistes](#)

Epíkouros and Kant would argue. Kant wouldn't steal a loaf of bread for a starving child. Epíkouros would have died rather than betray a loved one. They fundamentally disagreed on the question of the divisibility of space, and I think you'd have a tough time convincing Epíkouros that a "thing-it-itself" is any thing at all.

Excellent points by Eikadistes. And this bleeds over into comments by [DaveT](#) in another thread. I do not believe Epicurus would view someone who would "fail to steal a loaf of bread for a starving child" as simply choosing another path in life. Epicurus would find that conduct outrageous and deserving of strong verbal condemnation if not worse. Ideas have consequences and this is the kind of result of Kantian ideology that deserves the forcefulness of a Nietzsche to condemn in adequate terms.