

## PD 25 meaning? by Woolf (2004)

Post by "Don" of May 13, 2026 at 5:31 PM

I fully realize that this is going to come off as harsh, but I was off work today with sinus issues, sneezes, aches, and coughs and maybe my inhibitions are a little less than usual. Please take that as context, but with that said...

I'm sorry, but this is a prime example of the reason I *despise* AI summaries. It looks all authoritative with words like aphoristic length and presented in a bulleted list, but it's all an LLM predicting what word comes next and extruding it out for human consumption.

The "references" include posts **I've** made on this very forum that don't really say what the AI summary is trying to make them say: [Presenting the Principal Doctrines in Narrative Form](#)

The references also include papers/articles on Bible versification, which is not exactly a direct comparison. And Bible verses are also notorious for breaking across chapter lines or breaking up a thought:

<https://thebiblebistro.com/episode/breaking-bad-paragraphs/>

*Purpose: Chapters and verses were added to make referencing easier (e.g., John 3:16), but they can sometimes disrupt the text's flow.*

The AI summary also makes mention of the 40 doctrines, and I've personally found (at my referenced post) both 40 and earlier 44 "doctrines" that break in very different places:

Post

**[RE: Presenting the Principal Doctrines in Narrative Form](#)**

[https://archive.org/details/bub\\_gb...ge/465/mode/1up](https://archive.org/details/bub_gb...ge/465/mode/1up)

German, 1806, with 44 [Principal Doctrines](#) ?



Don

June 21, 2023 at 8:22 PM

Post

**[RE: Presenting the Principal Doctrines in Narrative Form](#)**

Okay, this was VERY interesting. I used the 1739 Greek with Latin translation to compare with the text at Perseus Digital Library:

1739: <https://hdl.handle.net/2027/nnc1.0021...7768674761-1400>

Perseus Greek (DL, Book 10): <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?do...0%3Achapter%3D1>

Perseus English (DL, Book 10):  
<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?do...0%3Achapter%3D1>

I used the Greek text to compare with each other since 1739 had 44 [Principal Doctrines](#) and Perseus (i.e., Hicks, 1972) had the...



Don

June 22, 2023 at 12:06 AM

So, it's a game of "Spot the Doctrine" with different results with, in my opinion, neither being right or wrong. It's overlaid on the text.

I can see Epicurus or whoever wrote *Kyriai Doxai* writing in smaller digestible chunks for easier memorization. I gladly admit that there are short sections that are apparent when reading the topics covered, but there is *nothing* to the best of my knowledge that confirms there are meant to be 40 separate doctrines in the book.

In my further opinion, reading them in conversation with each other within a particular topic rather than in isolation, provides additional context leading to a fuller picture of what's being conveyed. Trying to puzzle out things like "What does *this* Principal Doctrine mean?" is fraught with unnecessary difficulty if only one reads a few before or a few after or both.

*PS. I need to add that I remain open to research on where the "breaks" happen to be in [Principal Doctrines](#). But the arbitrary 40 isn't really helpful in that quest in my opinion.*