

Episode 334 - EATAQ 16 - Further Epicurean Analysis of the Problems With The Stoic "Kataleptic Impression"

Post by "Patrikios" of May 17, 2026 at 11:06 AM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

In today's episode I want us to take the time to read Wikipedia's definition of "katalepsis" as I think it's going to help us to keep this in mind as we proceed further:

[Cassius](#) ,

I was trying to better understand the difference between katalepsis and prolepsis. I recall reading this paper from David Glidden on [Epicurean Prolepsis](#). Glidden researches Diogenes Laertius and Cicero, when he explains this aspect.

Quote

What these same sources say about Epicurean prolepsis is always from a Stoic perspective, even when the author (Diogenes Laertius, Cicero) is trying to be fair. Diogenes Laertius¹ report of Epicurean prolepsis is painfully groping, looking for the right Stoic expressions to describe the device: "*By **prolepsis** they mean a kind of **katalepsis** or right opinion or concept or universal thought (consensus omnium) stored in the mind --that is, the memory of a frequent appearance from the outside.*"

When you record this episode, it may be helpful to explain how these two Greek terms (**prolepsis & katalepsis**) were used by the different schools of thought (stoics, skeptics, epicureans).

Thanks again for the depth of discussion and research you and [Joshua](#) bring to this review of Cicero's "Academic Questions".