

# Updated FAQ Entry: Why Should I Care About Epicurean Physics When So Much Science Has Changed In The Last 2000 Years?

Post by “Cassius” of June 17, 2026 at 1:55 PM

Without rehashing what is in the FAQ material, one of the most clear statements of how the physics plays into these issue occurs in Lucretius Book 3. Of course someone can deny the conclusion, and say that Epicurus / Lucretius were wrong, and that we should accept total determinism / fatalism as inherent in the universe being material.

But I don't see any room for doubt. The Epicureans did in fact consider those objections, and concluded that those objections are not controlling.

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So is it with the race of men. However much training gives some of them an equal culture, yet it leaves those first traces of the nature of the mind of each. Nor must we think that such maladies can be plucked out by the roots, but that one man will more swiftly fall into bitter anger, another be a little sooner assailed by fear, while a third will take some things more gently than is right. And in many other things it must needs be that the diverse natures of men differ, and the habits that follow thereon; but I cannot now set forth the secret causes of these, nor discover names for all the shapes of the first atoms, whence arises this variety in things. One thing herein I see that I can affirm, that so small are the traces of these natures left, which reason could not dispel for us, that nothing hinders us from living a life worthy of the gods.