

# Are You Epicurean Or Hieronymian?

**Post by "Cassius" of October 1, 2019 at 6:34 PM**

According to Wikipedia, Hieronymus of Rhodes lived from c. 290 – c. 230 BC, while Epicurus lived from 341-270 BC. That means that Hieronymus lived after Epicurus, and had Epicurus' works to reference, but Epicurus was no longer around to respond to Hieronymus. If indeed Epicurus had taken the position that "absence of pain" is a correct and full statement of the goal of life, why would Hieronymus have had to deviate from Epicurus, and why would Cicero have had to set them up as opposites? the tragedy is that we don't have the works of contemporaneous Epicurus who would certainly have written to clear up this conflict. All we can go on now is that Cicero and those who knew at the time, knew that Hieronymus advocated "absence of pain" and deprecated pleasure, and that that was *\*not\** what Epicurus had taught.