

Brett's (belial1975) Epicurean Outline

Post by "brett" of January 17, 2018 at 10:34 AM

Okie dokie. Here goes.

1. Nature / Physics
 1. There is no supernatural realm/entity that governs the universe
 2. Matter and void are the basic building blocks of reality
 3. Natural laws guide physical processes
 4. Basic state of the physical world is change and transformation - nothing is static materially
2. Knowledge /Truth
 1. The senses are reliable witnesses
 2. Reason helps us determine what philosophical principles are valid (i.e. especially in deducing next principles from axioms)
 3. Especially with respect to knowledge of the physical world, we are constantly revising 'knowledge' in response to new facts and data through the scientific method
3. Ethics / How to live
 1. Pleasure is the goal of life
 2. What is pleasurable for one is not for another - pleasure is relative to a large extent
 3. Some actions, on average, tend to create pain (unfaithfulness to friends/loved ones, theft) for most folks while some tend to create pleasure (deep friendship)
 4. "Live and let live" - the good society is the one that allows people to express and pursue their own pleasures and only limits the former when it interferes with that selfsame pursuit of others