

Brett's (belial1975) Epicurean Outline

Post by "Cassius" of January 17, 2018 at 11:43 AM

Excellent example for what we are trying to do here - thanks Brett!

Here are initial comments:

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 <<< This is a subject where Philodemus "On Methods of Inference" has important things to say. The edition I have linked in the [library here](#) has a LOT of good commentary in the appendix by [DeLacy \(this is the direct link\)](#) where he unwinds what Philodemus was saying the Epicureans thought on the issue of: how do we take past experience and infer conclusions about things where we have no experience / how far can we go?

"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 - DeWitt says this and I largely agree, but I wonder if there are not limits to this conclusion. If the central focus is alwaysDeWitt says this and I agree on pleasure, may there not be times when the structure of the society has to adjust so as to achieve pleasure under circumstances that limit freedom (such as the Romans appointing a temporary dictator to preserve the society.) All the questions about organization of society are very interesting.

Lots more to say in later posts!