

Discussion of the Society of Epicurus' 20 Tenets of 12/21/19

Post by "Hiram" of December 27, 2019 at 12:30 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

I presume that is addressed to me and will say that of course I do not want you to hold back your "frank criticism." Obviously while we agree on a considerable number of things we disagree strongly on other things. The best way for everyone to move forward is to discuss things as clearly as possible to sharpen the differences. Yes those differences may lead us at some point to going totally (as opposed to partially) different ways, but if that were to happen then even that would still be for the best if it is due to legitimate differences rather than misunderstandings.

I guess you've always made me feel like when I offer critique that you just use my words to build a bigger wall between us, so it feels so pointless and I don't feel like you will profit from anything I say anymore, and Elayne also. Her "people like Hiram" comment felt full of ill-will and like a personal attack, which goes against Philodemus' instructions about parrhesia, which would require that people be committed to each other's character and happiness and that they use suavity. So it's probably no use to offer criticism considering there seem to be other issues, suspicion and hostility that impede the development of trust and friendship.

Also I suspect that the internet doesn't help because so many nuances of normal communication don't come through.

I was just translating DeWitt's Procedures in Epicurean groups, and here it cites Philodemus' Peri Parrhesias.