

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

Post by "Cassius" of January 7, 2020 at 7:20 AM

[Quote from Elayne](#)

I advise caution in saying that there would be any scientific discovery we would reject on the grounds that someone would use it to insert their god of the gaps. We are wisest to base knowledge on evidence, not worry about trying to get evidence to exclude religionists.

Yes I agree but as I see it I am making a somewhat different point.

I would never suggest that we reject a "discovery" or "evidence" -- I am talking "theory."

In other words, if there is indeed evidence that everything observed so far is expanding in one or more directions, then we definitely "accept" that evidence -- but not necessarily every conclusion that someone suggests should be drawn from it.

We first and also have the firmly established observation that nothing comes from or goes to nothing. We don't throw that out the door just because we have evidence of expansion. We now have two separate sets of evidence, and the "truth" must incorporate BOTH to be valid, since we cannot throw out either.

So the point I think is valid is that we can never throw out any evidence, but we can and must throw out theories that are not consistent with ALL the observed facts. In those cases where we can't pin down a likely answer we accept all possible alternatives that ARE consistent with the facts, even when incomplete or ambiguous, and/or we follow the "wait" method.