

Opportunities for Activism And Collaboration Here At EpicureanFriends.com

Post by “Mathitis Kipouros” of July 4, 2020 at 6:56 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

We all want to think that our way of seeing the world is the "right" one, and that everyone who is an Epicurean will agree with us, but it seems to me that that just isn't so, and it is very disappointing to people when they realize that.

I have been liking Epicureanism so far because it's been serving me as a way to more easily identify what's right and what's wrong, without overcomplicating things. I still have the hope that this is possible. But it's also shown so far to be a bit problematic.

When you talk to someone and try to make them see your point of view from the perspective of what makes sense (generally, no particularly you) *in terms of pain or pleasure*, they start to answer with mental constructions of what should be, what it's always been, what's orthodox and how that's more safe, etc... and they show an almost visceral reaction when you point that out, but that doesn't make the truth false, it just makes then inaccessible at the moment.

This also brings to mind something I've been grappling with lately... since pleasure and pain are things you can only experience yourself, it makes it very clear that things can start to become less absolute (*and thus less comfortable - hence the resistance*) and more relative... perhaps a person does something that is not the best for a third party, but it brings him genuine pleasure, or it eliminates genuine pain, so he wasn't acting with harm in mind... so how can you say he is bad if he is even ignorant of the pain he's causing to said third party... If he does it after it has been brought to his attention the pain his suffering to someone else, then he would be bad, but not before? 🤔