

## Episode Two - The Achievement of Epicurus

Post by "Susan Hill" of October 3, 2020 at 2:38 PM

I found it interesting to look up the Latin for exactly what is being condemned, variously translated as Superstition, or Religion. It is actually "religio" which Martin Furguson Smith annotates as:

"false religion," not "religion,"... The Epicureans were opposed not to religion, but to the traditional religion which taught that the gods govern the world."

He further mentions that Lucretius regarded "religio" as "superstitio", but he was referring to the popular religion of his day.

From what I have read so far, it looks like Epicurus is often described as pious, kept votives in his home, and observed certain religious festivals and rites. Did he not, therefore; have a religion? (A system of faith?) If so, a better translation throughout might be "traditional religion" or "popular religion"?