

Reverence and Awe In Epicurean Philosophy

Post by “Elayne” of October 23, 2020 at 11:09 AM

Susan, yes! You are getting exactly to the heart of what people confront in themselves, in order to understand this philosophy. We have been so indoctrinated to think "worthy of reverence" must refer to some quality other than pleasure. People resist letting go of it. Indeed, it makes them squirm.

Setting anything other than the feeling of pleasure as the measure of greatness means you have got virtue ethics mixed up in there.

The feeling of reverence is a pleasure. But our having that feeling does not necessarily coincide with the being's skill at their own pleasure. It does seem to me that we might be more likely to feel reverence for such a being if we ourselves fully endorse pleasure! There's a reason I use a pig statue for my skype photo ☹️.