

# Reverence and Awe In Epicurean Philosophy

**Post by “Elayne” of October 26, 2020 at 5:59 PM**

Don, one thing I always remember is that it was against the law upon pain of death to refuse to participate in worship and rituals. No doubt in those rituals, things were said which completely went against Epicurus' description of the gods, because the prevailing religions went against his framing. We don't have his explanations for his choice, but I would guess he didn't feel like being put to death over it. I'd happily chant with supernaturalists if someone said they'd kill me if I didn't.

I'm not going to go so far as to say his whole teaching about the gods was for self protection--some have suggested it, but that doesn't seem as plausible.

I think all this is definitely worth discussing in detail.