

Images, Nicknames, and Things Associated With Epicurus

Post by "Cassius" of May 19, 2022 at 6:19 AM

Many of the things we could list as "images, nicknames, or things" associated with Epicurus deserve a thread of their own, but we can start with a list or table and then branch off as needed. Here's an effort for a start. Please suggest others and I will add them to the list. One purpose of this list will be to help in development of graphics and other "creative" presentations.

Reference	Source	Description
Image on the Boscoreale Cup	Boscoreale	Epicurus with three-legged tripod and piglet at his feet, with Zeno the Stoic pointing at him accusingly
Figs / Fig Tree	Lucian of Samosata "Alexander the Oracle Monger"	Lucian says that Alexander ordered Epicurus' writings to be burned on a fire made of fig trees, (see post from Don below)
Pigs / Piglets / Hogs	Herculaneum	Pigs / Piglets are associated with Epicurus as shown on the Boscoreale cup and references by Horace
The Garden	Cicero	
The Gargettian	Cicero	Reference to the area of Athens from which Epicurus' family came.

Post by "Cassius" of May 19, 2022 at 9:00 AM

I don't think I will add this to the chart yet, but I've always thought that the famous "monkey skull" mosaic had obvious Epicurean allusions. At this moment I can't find prior threads on it so I will post a new thread here:

Thread

[The "Monkey Skull" Mosaic From Pompeii](#)

Let's discuss here to what extent this mosaic has Epicurean elements:

epicureanfriends.com/wcf/attachment/2716/



Cassius

May 19, 2022 at 8:55 AM

Post by “Eikadistes” of May 19, 2022 at 4:42 PM

I am curious about the Epicurus' proposed love of figs. From where do we read that?

Post by “Don” of May 19, 2022 at 4:57 PM

47. One of Alexander's acts in this connection was most comical. Hitting upon the "Established Beliefs" of Epicurus, which is the finest of his books, as you know, and contains in summary the articles of the man's philosophic creed,³⁷ he brought it into the middle of the market-place, burned it on fagots of fig-wood just as if he were burning the man in person, and threw the ashes into the sea, even adding an oracle also:

"Burn with fire, I command you, the creed of a purblind dotard!"

But the scoundrel had no idea what blessings that book creates for its readers and what peace, tranquillity, and freedom it engenders in them, liberating them as it does from terrors and apparitions and portents, from vain hopes and extravagant cravings, developing in them intelligence and truth, and truly purifying their understanding, not with torches and squills and that sort of foolery, but with straight thinking, truthfulness and frankness.

[Lucian of Samosata : Alexander the False Prophet](#)

I don't see anything about "favorite food."

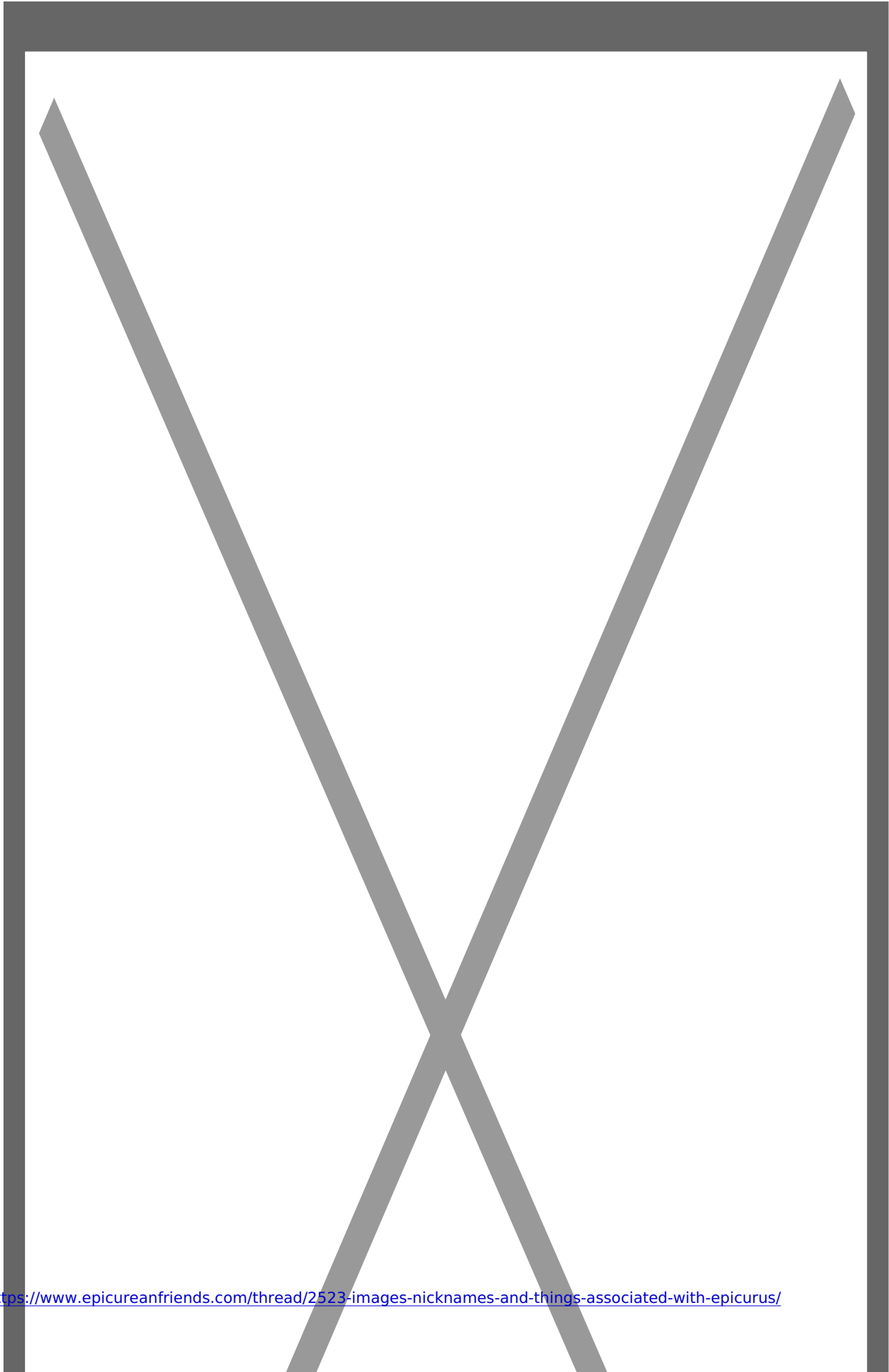
PS. Just to be clear: that reference to "Established Beliefs" *is* the [Principal Doctrines](#) or kyriai doxai

[Lucian, Alexander, section 47](#)

Post by “Don” of May 19, 2022 at 5:04 PM

Although this is interesting and maybe completely irrelevant:

Image not found or type unknown



[Chrysippus - Wikipedia](#)

en.wikipedia.org

He died during the 143rd Olympiad (208–204 BC) at the age of 73. Diogenes Laërtius gives two different accounts of his death. In the first account, Chrysippus was seized with dizziness having drunk undiluted wine at a feast, and died soon after. In the second account, he was watching a donkey eat some figs and cried out: "Now give the donkey a drink of pure wine to wash down the figs", whereupon he died in a fit of laughter. His nephew Aristocreon erected a statue in his honour in the Kerameikos. Chrysippus was succeeded as head of the Stoic school by his pupil Zeno of Tarsus.

Post by “Cassius” of May 19, 2022 at 8:54 PM

Yes Don's cite is what I was remembering so probably I was embellishing to say favorite food, unless we come up with a cite somewhere else. Not so much a favorite food reference as something associated with Epicurus.

Post by “Don” of May 19, 2022 at 9:01 PM

Lucian: Sale of Philosophers

19

Her. What name?

Fifth D. Dion; of Syracuse.

Her. Take him, and much good may he do you. Now I want Epicureanism. Who offers for Epicureanism? He is a disciple of the laughing creed and the drunken creed, whom we were offering just now. But he has one extra accomplishment — impiety. For the rest, a dainty, lickerish creed.

Sixth D. What price?

Her. Eight pounds.

Sixth D. Here you are. By the way, you might let me know what he likes to eat.

Her. Anything sweet. Anything with honey in it. Dried figs are his favourite dish.

Sixth D. That is all right. We will get in a supply of Carian fig-cakes.

[Sale of Creeds | Vitarum auctio \[The Lucian of Samosata Project\]](#)

Post by “Cassius” of May 19, 2022 at 9:11 PM

Don I know I read that one in the past so maybe that is what I remembered.

I checked your link and the section about that is a pretty clear indictment of Platonic forms!

Lucian is a tremendous source of information.

Post by “Don” of May 19, 2022 at 11:06 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

Lucian is a tremendous source of information.

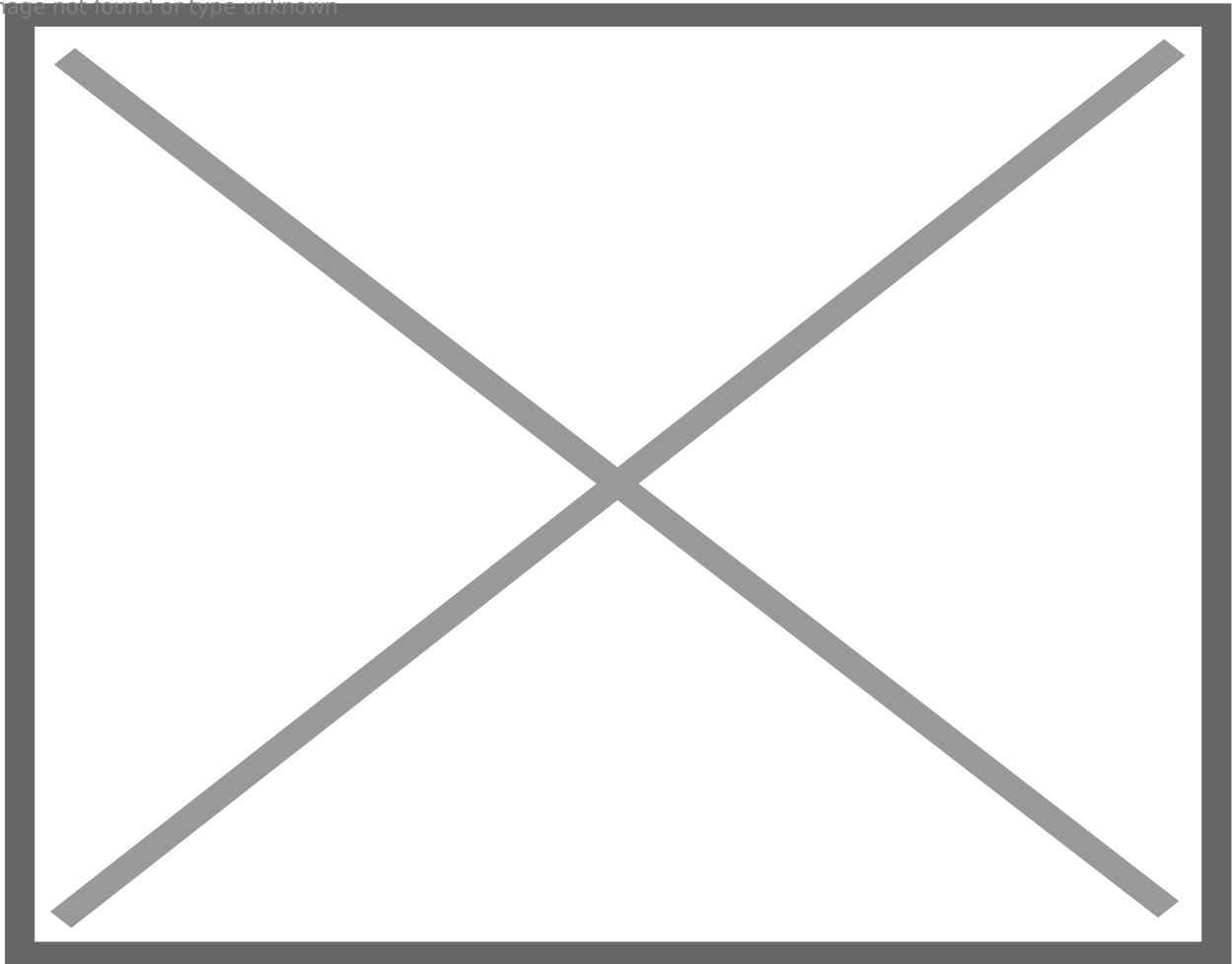
And fun to read! (not belly laughing funny maybe, but I've gotten a chuckle out of him on numerous occasions as well as "Ha! Good one" too. He certainly didn't suffer fools or look kindly on pomposity.)

Post by “Kalosyni” of May 25, 2022 at 9:50 AM

Images of Epicurus -- I notice subtle differences in various renderings and sculptures -- subtle differences in the facial expression of the mouth. Can post more soon. Found this recently (not sure if it is on the forum in another location).

Epicurus face reconstruction

Image not found or type unknown



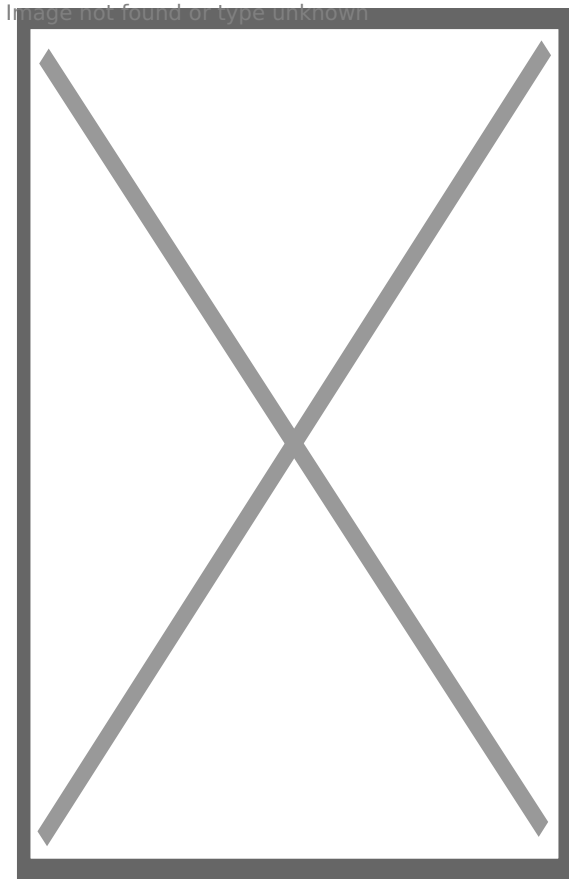
[Alessandro Tomasi na Twitteru](#)

“Face reconstruction of the Greek philosopher Epicurus, founder of the Epicurean school of philosophy (341-270 BC)”

mobile.twitter.com

Post by “Kalosyni” of May 25, 2022 at 10:05 AM

A Roman copy, production date: AD 1 - 160



[bust | British Museum](#)

Marble terminal bust of the philosopher Epicurus.
www.britishmuseum.org

Post by “Cassius” of May 25, 2022 at 10:12 AM

I have to say that of the ones I have seen this one is my favorite:

Start at 2:04:

<https://youtu.be/lq5JvWUMJE4?t=124>

Thread

[**Bust Of Epicurus Reconstructed - Great Video Shared by Elli!**](#)

Thank you for finding this Elli! WOW Epicurus comes out STRONG in this video! Here's Epicurus reconstructed, and then afterwards the full video at about the 2:05 mark. This Epicurus is ready to star in his own movie!

epicureanfriends.com/wcf/attachment/1814/

youtube.com/watch?v=lq5JvWUMJE4



Cassius

April 21, 2021 at 9:05 PM

Post by “Don” of May 25, 2022 at 10:28 AM

Something to keep in mind with the images:

Epicurus was around 35 when he moved to Athens for good.

He died around 71/72 years old.

So, a younger (yes, 30s is younger! 😊) Epicurus gets at what her looked like writing to Menoikeus.

Grey-haired Epicurus is when he's established and celebrating his birthday with everyone in the Garden.

Post by “Cassius” of May 25, 2022 at 10:32 AM

[Quote from Don](#)

Epicurus gets at what her looked like writing to Menoikeus.

Do you think it's safe to presume that letter was written soon after arrival in Athens?

I know people say the style is different and we can presume something from that, but frankly I'm not sure how to interpret that.

Post by “Don” of May 25, 2022 at 2:39 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

[Quote from Don](#)

Epicurus gets at what her looked like writing to Menoikeus.

Do you think it's safe to presume that letter was written soon after arrival in Athens?

I know people say the style is different and we can presume something from that, but frankly I'm not sure how to interpret that.

Safe as any literary critical analysis. My main point was simply to urge us to remember that Epicurus was a living, breathing human being who lived a full life from youngster with his parents through old age.