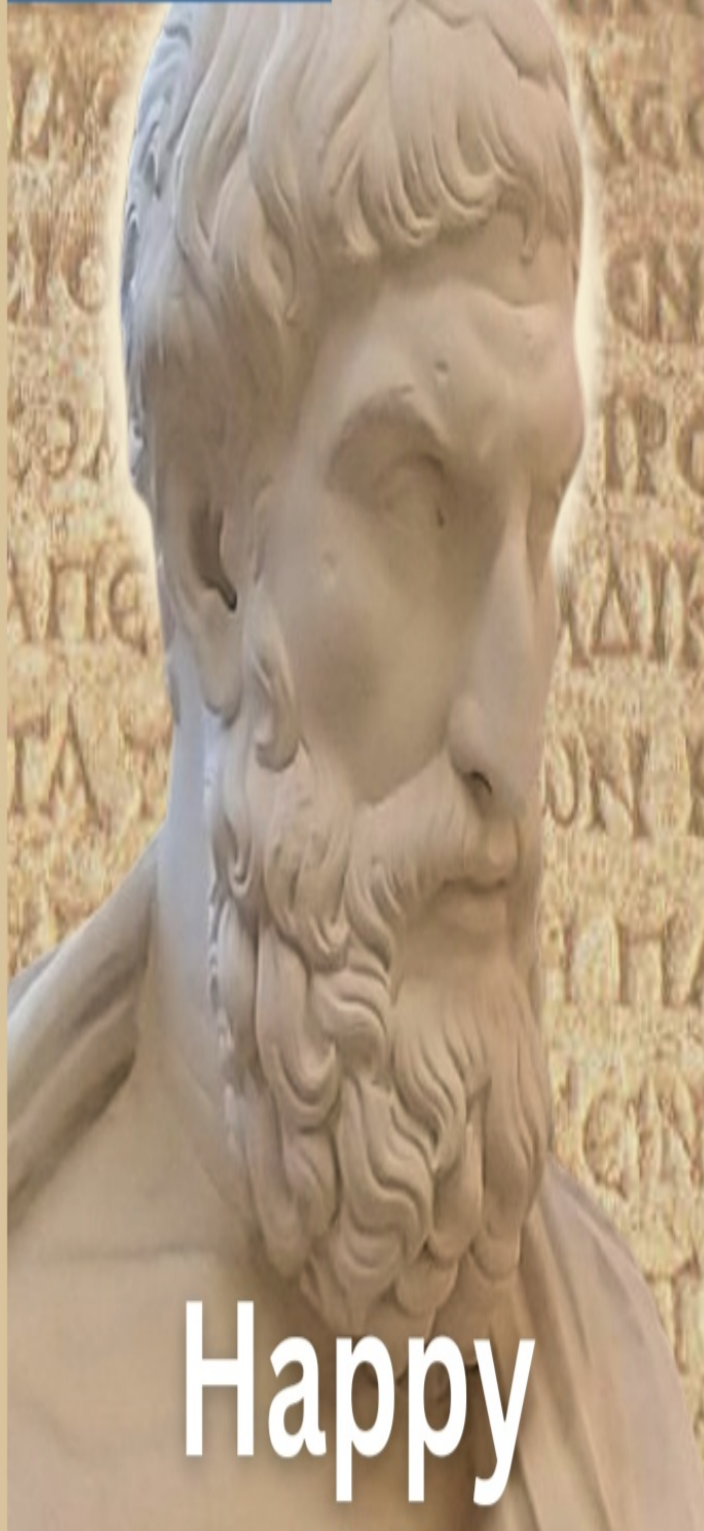


# Happy Twentieth of May, 2024

Post by "Kalosyni" of May 20, 2024 at 7:31 AM



May 20, 2024



Happy

Twentieth!

Wall of Diogenes of Oinoanda - Fr. 29

[There are many who] pursue philosophy for the sake of [wealth and fame], with the aim of procuring these either from private individuals or from kings, by whom philosophy is deemed to be some great and precious possession.

Well, it is not in order to gain any of the above-mentioned objectives that we have embarked upon the same undertaking, but so that we may enjoy happiness through attainment of the goal craved by nature.

The identity of this goal and how neither wealth can furnish it, nor political fame, nor royal office, nor a life of luxury and sumptuous banquets, nor pleasures of choice love-affairs, nor anything else, while philosophy [alone can secure it], we [shall now explain after setting the whole question before you. For we have had this writing inscribed in public] not [for ourselves,] but [for you, citizens, so that we might render it available to all of you in an easily accessible form without oral

instruction.] ...(translation by M.F. Smith - <https://www.english.oxford.ac.uk/the-inscr>

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## Post by “Kalosyni” of May 20, 2024 at 8:07 AM

Just yesterday I was reading over the Ethics section of the Wall of Diogenes of Oinoanda, at this website:

[The inscription](#)

It is so fascinating how the maxiums of Epicurus are there, and it must have been magnificent in its original form. The phrasing is slightly different on some so it helps with a fuller cognition.

Very interesting to see Martin Ferguson Smith and the wall in this video released in 2015 (same video was recently posted in other thread by TauPhi):

<https://youtu.be/1s-z7uZd9X8>

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## Post by “Godfrey” of May 20, 2024 at 12:12 PM

Happy Twentieth one and all!

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## Post by “TauPhi” of May 20, 2024 at 2:12 PM

Based on Kalosyni's poster, it looks like this month 20th is Oinoanda themed. Instead of wishing you all a happy one, I'll try to make it a bit happier than happy (for those interested in the inscription).

Please allow me to draw your attention to the article written by Martin Ferguson Smith himself where he meticulously presents last 50 (an then some more) years of the research conducted on the site in Oinoanda. If you decide to take a look, you'll find almost year by year summary of what has been found and what has been published regarding these findings. And to encourage you further, here are two excerpts from the conclusion of this fascinating article. One will make you smile, the other will make you frown.

Quote

The number of fragments discovered has much more than tripled, from 88 to 305, and the quantity of text has more than doubled, from about 3,550 words to about 8,000. The length of the known parts of Diogenes' inscription is now only slightly less than the combined length of Epicurus' Letter to Herodotus, Letter to Menoeceus, and [Principal Doctrines](#) (Κύρια Δόξαι) [...] (page 22)

#### Quote

[...] I cannot help feeling some disappointment at the continuing lack of a major programme of excavation, clearing, and restoration. If such an operation were to be carried out, it would probably at least double the extent of the known text, and, although it would certainly present challenges, these would be much easier to surmount than any at Herculaneum, for Oinoanda is an uninhabited site, and, as the excavation in 1997 confirmed, the hidden treasure lies at no great depth. (page 22)

The article is publicly available in full at MFS website (starts at page 6):

<http://www.martinfergusonsmith.com/pdf/CRONACHEERCOLANES.pdf>