Epicurus

Epicurus (Ancient Greek: ????????, romanized: Epíkouros; 341–270 BC) was an ancient Greek philosopher and sage who founded Epicureanism, a highly influential school of philosophy. He was born on the Greek island of Samos to Athenian parents. Influenced by Democritus, Aristippus, Pyrrho, and possibly the Cynics, he turned against the Platonism of his day and established his own school, known as "the Garden", in Athens. **Epicurus** and his followers were known for eating simple meals and discussing a wide range of philosophical subjects. He openly allowed women to join the school as a matter of policy. **Epicurus** is said to have originally written over 300 works on various subjects, but the vast majority of these writings have been lost. Only three letters written by him—the letters to Menoeceus, Pythocles, and Herodotus—and two collections of quotes—the Principal Doctrines and the Vatican Sayings—have survived intact, along with a few fragments of his other writings. Most knowledge of his teachings comes from later authors, particularly the biographer Diogenes Laërtius, the Epicurean Roman poet Lucretius and the Epicurean philosopher Philodemus, and with hostile but largely accurate accounts by the Pyrrhonist philosopher Sextus Empiricus, and the Academic Skeptic and statesman Cicero. Wikipedia, Epicurus *C*

Keely

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The ancient Greek philosopher Epicurus posited happiness as life's ultimate goal. But he also believed that our human fears often stop us from reaching that goal, and that only in freeing the mind from anxiety and worry can we experience freedom and peace. In fact, the lifestyle we now call "Epicurean" refers to one that focuses on the most basic joys of life: things like friendship, knowledge, virtue, and sense-based comforts such as food and good health. When we simplify life in that way, we can be at peace not only with ourselves but also with the people around us. Across millennia, Epicurus reminds us that the simplest pleasures, enjoyed in good company, are often the best. [anon]