

**CHIEF ANCIENT
PHILOSOPHIES;
EPICUREANISM**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649575442

Chief Ancient Philosophies; Epicureanism by William Wallace

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

WILLIAM WALLACE

**CHIEF ANCIENT
PHILOSOPHIES;
EPICUREANISM**

Grad. R. R. :

03

572

.W 195-

EPICUREANISM.



CHIEF ANCIENT PHILOSOPHIES.

67846

EPICUREANISM.

BY

WILLIAM WALLACE, M.A.

FELLOW AND TUTOR OF MERTON COLLEGE, OXFORD,
LL.D. ST. ANDREW'S.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
THE COMMITTEE OF GENERAL LITERATURE AND EDUCATION
APPOINTED BY THE SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING
CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.

LONDON:
SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.

NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE, CHANCING CROSS;
43, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, E.C.; 48, PICCADILLY, W.
NEW YORK: POTT, YOUNG, & CO.

1880.

LONDON:
WYMAN AND SONS, PRINTERS, GREAT QUEEN STREET,
LINCOLN'S-INN FIELDS, W.C.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION	Page	1
---------------------	------	---

The four chief schools of ancient philosophy, 1; the Idealistic systems of Plato and Aristotle succeeded by the Realistic systems of Stoicism and Epicureanism, 8; relation of the Cynics and Cyrenaics to the latter sects, 11; distinctive characteristics of the Stoics and Epicureans, 15; other philosophic schools, 19; worth of philosophy in the Greco-Roman world, 20.

CHAPTER II.

EPICURUS AND HIS AGE	22
-----------------------------	----

Parentage of Epicurus, 23; Samos occupied by Athenians, 23; religious societies, 25; Epicurus as *ephebos*, 26; Athens at war with Antipater, 27; Epicurus at Colophon, Mitylene, and Lampsacus, 28; his teacher Nausiphanes, 29; Pyrrho of Elis, 31; settlement of Epicurus at Athens, 32; Athens under the Macedonians, 33; disturbed condition of Greece, 34; career of Demetrius *Poliorcetes*, 36; garden of Epicurus, 38; fashionable philosophers of the time, 40; freethinkers at court, 41; siege of Athens by Demetrius, 44; health of Epicurus, 45; his death, 46.

CHAPTER III.

THE EPICUREAN BROTHERHOOD. ... Page 48

- 2 { Epicurean mode of life, 48; view of human nature, 50; disciples of Epicurus, 50; Leontion, 53; position of women in Greece, 54; scandals, 56;
- 3 { friendship and humanity of the Epicureans, 58; letter of Epicurus to a little girl, 60; fast-days, 60; dogmatic orthodoxy of the sect, 61; contributions for mutual support, 62; letters of the brethren, 63; testament of Epicurus, 65; his successors, 68; Epicurean holidays, 69; enthusiasm of his followers, 69.

CHAPTER IV.

DOCUMENTARY SOURCES... .. 72

Lucretius, 73; Diogenes Laertius, 73; Plutarch, 76; Cicero, 77; style of Epicurus, 78; his works, 79; the manuscripts of Herculaneum, 80; Philodemus, 82.

CHAPTER V.

GENERAL ASPECT OF THE SYSTEM 85

3 | Popular estimates of Epicureanism, 85; its antagonism to politics, letters, and religion, 86; practical aim, 88; subdivision into canonic and physiology, 89; principles of evidence, 93.

CHAPTER VI.

THE NATURAL WORLD 95

1 | Mechanical explanation of the universe, 95; atoms, 97; their movements and aggregations, 98; pheno-

6 } mena of sensibility, 101 ; the soul, 103 ; sense-perception, 104 ; explanation of ghosts and mirages, 106 ; our mental vision of the gods, 107 ; denial of divine providence and of immortality, 108 ; rejection of the supernatural, 110 ; rise of life upon the earth, 114 ; origin of language, 115 ; progress of civilization, 116 ; free-will, fate, and chance, 118 ; death and the hereafter, 121.

CHAPTER VII.

THE CHIEF GOOD 125

7 | Letter of Epicurus to Menœceus, 126 ; objections to the Epicurean doctrine, 132 ; Epicureanism attempts to explain why we ought to do right, 134 ; Aristotle's view of pleasure, 136 ; Utilitarianism, 138 ; ambiguity of the term pleasure, 140 ; pleasure and pain, 142 ; subdivision of the desires, 145 ; negative aspect of Epicurean pleasure, 145 ; contrast with Cyrenaicism, 146 ; relation of virtue to pleasure, 155 ; justice, 158 ; the social compact, 159 ; individualism, 160 ; the right to ignore the State, 163 ; friendship, 164 ; Epicurean ideals, 166 ; aphorisms, 167.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE ATOMIC THEORY 170

Democritus, 170 ; contrast with Aristotle, 171 ; atoms and the void, 174 ; scientific postulates of Epicurus and Democritus, 177 ; considerations in favour of atomism, 179 ; ancient and modern atomic theories, 181 ; Leibnitz, 184 ; neglect by Epicurus of the conception of force, 187 ; question of attributes, 189 ; extent of the mechanical explanation of nature, 191.