

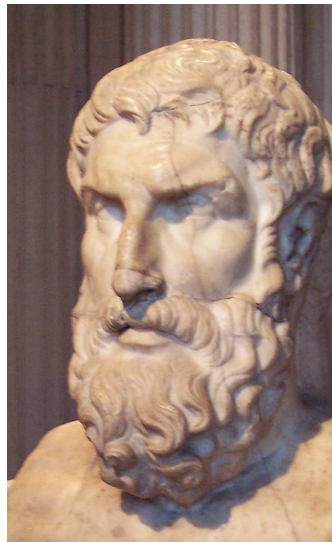
On importance of summaries:

“Herethen, Herodotus, you have the chief doctrines of Physics in the form of a *summary*. So that, if this statement be accurately retained and take effect, a man will I make no doubt, be incomparably better equipped than his fellows, even if he should never go into all the exact details. For he will clear up for himself many of the points which I have worked out in detail in my complete exposition; and the *summary* itself, if borne in mind, will be of constant service for him.

It is of such a sort that those who are already tolerably, or even perfectly, well acquainted with the details can, by analysis of what they know into such elementary perceptions as these, best prosecute their researches in physical science as a whole; while those, on the other hand, who are not altogether entitled to rank as mature students can in silent fashion and as quick as thought run over the doctrines most important for their peace of mind.

From a letter of Epicurus to Herodotus.

Diogenes Laertius, *“Lives of Eminent Philosophers”*, Vol. 2, p.611
The Loeb Classical Library, Harvard University Press, 2005



ΕΠΙΚΟΥΡΟΣ (311-271 BC)