

GORGIOS OF LENTINI

Born about 487 BCE in Sicily
(Italy)

Died about 375 BCE

**This puts him at 108 years old! Is this reliable??*



The greatest hindrance to
scholarly understanding of

Gorgias's philosophy is that the vast majority of his writings have been lost, and those that have survived have suffered considerable alteration by later copyists

Philosophy (major Ideas)

emphasizes the
practical application
of rhetoric toward
civic and political
life.

the **greatest evil** to
afflict a human
being is to have a
false opinion about
justice

developed three sequential arguments:
(1) **that nothing exists**; (2) **that even if**
existence exists, it is inapprehensible to
humans, and; (3) **that even if existence is**
apprehensible, it certainly cannot be
communicated or interpreted to one's
neighbors