

Fernando Pessoa

## **Doctrine of Satan-God is a material doctrine.**

Doctrine of Satan-God is a material doctrine. An infinitely imperfect God must of necessity be identified with matter. Why say there is a perpetual movement of ideas and that this movement is eternal when by this matter the product of the movement is also eternal? If the movement of ideas as reflected on matter be eternal, why should there be any reality but this reflection? It is to be eternal and must therefore be as it is. To say it will end for us is to exaggerate the part of the individual, itself as depreciated by the theory of the universals.

The Author of «Satan-God» is wrong in considering plurality as an attribute of power. Power possesses plurality *qua* act not in itself.

The «movement immobile» supposes number, but number is the basis of manifestation, yet not in Power, but in Act. Because number is the very basis of, necessary basis in, the physical, material world, we must not suppose that it is anything *anterior* to this world. It is co-extensive therewith.

Besides, ideal number contains no idea of alteration.

*Categories*: Being, Property (or Attribute), and Number.

s. d.

**Textos Filosóficos** . Vol. II. Fernando Pessoa. (Estabelecidos e prefaciados por António de Pina Coelho.) Lisboa: Ática, 1968: 148.