

Fernando Pessoa

METAPHYSICS — Noumenal Soul...

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Noumenal Soul and the Phenomenal Soul. Now the characteristic of the phenomenon is Law. The phenomenal Soul can hardly escape this rule.

The human reason, often on the right path, always has twisted the voyage by its fallacious appeal to reason, by its wish to explain everything so that itself it may understand.

Plato on the soul entering the body: the basis of his theory is right; what is wrong is what depends on the reasoning. A noumenal soul can hardly «choose»<choose>.

No sooner had I perceived this frequent and important error than I determined at once to put bright the human intellect, convinced as I was, as Kant had been, before me that man constantly used his reason without knowing its power and capacity.

1911?

Textos Filosóficos . Vol. I. Fernando Pessoa. (Estabelecidos e prefaciados por António de Pina Coelho.) Lisboa: Ática, 1968 (imp. 1993): 116.