

Fernando Pessoa

Materialism has indeed forgot (ten) that to take away religion sharply,

Materialism has indeed forgot (ten) that to take away religion sharply, suddenly, brutally from mankind is a crime. It is not that religion is true, but that it is necessary. By religion I do not mean Theology — I do not mean anything with a metaphysical implication. I mean something which attempts to assuage men's thirst for good only for themselves.

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Textos Filosóficos . Vol. II. Fernando Pessoa. (Estabelecidos e prefaciados por António de Pina Coelho.) Lisboa: Ática, 1968: 121.