

Fernando Pessoa

Argument from consciousness bad.

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Evil and error of the same nature. The progress of the world towards consciousness is a progress towards evil, towards suffering. There is no consciousness but of imperfections.

Real knowledge identity of idea and thing. So all human knowledge. For me that is true which I make true. For thee thus which thou makest true.

The division subject-object in consciousness most rudimentary thing of all. Limitation, exclusion.

To say the one is neither identical to itself nor to another thing, to say it is different from nothing is a brilliant kid nonsense, of striking declaration of ignorance.

«What unknown should be spared attempts to express it. For expressions and phrases such as Plato uses, if considered in relation to the unknown are inexpressive, feeble and weak. If in relation to us it is better not use them for they are absolute nonsense.

s. d.

Textos Filosóficos . Vol. II. Fernando Pessoa. (Estabelecidos e prefaciados por António de Pina Coelho.) Lisboa: Ática, 1968: 234.