

Fernando Pessoa

GREEK PHILOSOPHY — Origins

GREEK PHILOSOPHY

Origins

1. Like children with their dolls and horses, the greeks began by deifying the great phenomena of Nature, and particularly those which have on human life an influence beneficial or destructive: Earth and Fecundity, Light, Storm, Sun, Night, Moon.

2. Material things are now no longer gods, but dwellings, representations of the Gods. The Conception of an invisible being was formed from the human soul. The Gods were a transcendant, idealised, enlarged humanity. The world is their work; we exist for their pleasure. The problems of life and death, etc., were explained naïvely by religious tradition.

1906

Textos Filosóficos . Vol. I. Fernando Pessoa. (Estabelecidos e prefaciados por António de Pina Coelho.) Lisboa: Ática, 1968 (imp. 1993): 61.