

Fernando Pessoa

## Critique of the theory of Heraclitus

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All is change. True. But if there is but change, this change must take place in something. This something is what we call substance, Being.

Any 2 opposite opinions are absolutely identical.

All that begins has a cause (Vallet).

It was very soon clear to me that antinomies must have some exploration. I found the contrast of 2 opinions a

false: contrast. To contrast two things, it is needful that they should be of the same nature. I can contrast an apple and a pear, but not an apple and a cat. And the fact of these theories being antithetic I found to be the fact that they are of a different nature, one being *a priori*, the other being deduced from experience.

1906?

**Textos Filosóficos** . Vol. I. Fernando Pessoa. (Estabelecidos e prefaciados por António de Pina Coelho.) Lisboa: Ática, 1968 (imp. 1993): 62.