

Pre-socratic Fragments

An appraisal by Kai Collins



Fragment one

Anaximander: 'says that it [arche] is neither water nor any other of the so-called elements but some different infinite nature, from which all the heavens and the worlds in them come into being. And the things from which existing things come into being are also the thing into which they are destroyed, in accordance with what must be. For they give justice and reparation to one another for their injustice in accordance with the arrangement of time'



My appraisal of fragment one

- Rejection of elements as 'Arche'
- Notion of an 'infinite arche'
 - ◆ Links to infinite regression
 - Aristotle's idea of the unmoved mover
 - Infinite regression in science
- Links to Knowledge and reality
- Summary of thought

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Fragment Two

Eternity is a child at play, playing draughts: the kingdom is a child's'



My appraisal of fragment two

Breakdown of the fragment:

- 'Eternity is a child at play'
 - ◆ Importance of the words 'eternity' and 'child'
 - ◆ Juxtaposition
- 'Playing draughts'
 - ◆ Game of strategy
 - Order
 - ◆ 'Life is a game' – Arnold
 - ◆ Balance between order and spontaneity
- 'The kingdom is a child's'
 - ◆ Religion
 - ◆ Wisdom and knowledge
- Overall analysis

'Eternity is a child at
play, playing draughts:
the kingdom is a
child's''



To Conclude...

- Anaximander
- Heraclitus
- Ideas around knowledge and reality



Thank you for listening

Have you got any questions

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