

he continues, "should we not accept the theories which suppose a continuous emanation from and absorption into the world soul?" Such considerations are too mystical for present day science, and the students of physics may be said to be inclined to think that mind is a function of matter, so that death is a change which ends individuality. But there is an unworthy timidity about even discussing such questions, born of the fear of such results as came to Pythagoras, and, later, to Socrates who borrowed from him, also to ten thousand others in all subsequent ages and in all lands. Opinion is not yet free.

The cosmogonies we have been glancing at are after all more notable for their points of agreement than for their differences. We have increased our knowledge of physical facts but do not seem to have advanced in metaphysics. Pythagoras brought from the East much knowledge and much thought, and to the Greek school of philosophy, which he largely influenced, we owe all our own. Our repayment to the East of this weighty obligation has not always been so altruistic as gratitude requires.