

Pensées de Pascal

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Description: -

Grace (Theology)

Apologetics -- 17th century.

Catholic Church -- Doctrinal and controversial works -- Catholic authors.Pensées de Pascal

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Pensées

Yet, when we imagine a king attended with every pleasure he can feel, if he be without diversion, and be left to consider and reflect on what he is, this feeble happiness will not sustain him; he will necessarily fall into forebodings of dangers, of revolutions which may happen, and, finally, of death and inevitable disease; so that if he be without what is called diversion, he is unhappy, and more unhappy than the least of his subjects who plays and diverts himself.

Pascal,

Granted that faith cannot be proved, what harm will come to you if you gamble on its truth and it proves false? Hence savages care nothing for Providence. If man made himself the first object of study, he would see how incapable he is of going further. Let us then take our compass; we are something, and we are not everything.

Pensées de Blaise Pascal

As I think is clear from the frantic tone, and the many different and contradictory ways that Pascal tries to justify belief, he himself was not fully convinced by any of them.

Pensées Quotes by Blaise Pascal

While this encounter with Jansenist theology is sometimes described as Pascal's first conversion, it is unlikely that he had already made the definitive choice about the insignificance of mathematical and scientific work that characterised his change of heart in the 1650s. He undoubtedly abused the art of quotation, as a polemical writer can hardly help but do; but there were abuses for him to abuse; and he did the job thoroughly. Pascal's led him into a life of , and the Pensées was in many ways his life's work.

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