

Plutarch on the “E” at Delphi

οὐ μὴν ἀλλὰ κὰν εἷς οὗτος ἢ μονογενής, ὡς οἴεται
καὶ Ἀριστοτέλης, τρόπον τινὰ καὶ τοῦτον ἐκ
πέντε σύγκειμενον κόσμων καὶ συνηρμοσμένον
εἶναι· ὧν ὁ μὲν ἐστὶ γῆς ὁ δ' ὕδατος, τρίτος δὲ
πυρὸς καὶ τέταρτος ἀέρος· τὸν δὲ πέμπτον
οὐρανὸν οἱ δὲ φῶς οἱ δ' αἰθέρα καλοῦσιν, οἱ δ' αὐτὸ
τοῦτο πέμπτην οὐσίαν...

Περὶ τοῦ Εἰ τοῦ ἐν Δελφοῖς, Plutarch's *Moralia* 389-90

κὰν *even if*

εἷς *one (single)*

οὗτος *this [κόσμος world]*

ἢ *is (present subjunctive in the condition)*

μονογενής *only created, only begotten*

ὡς οἴεται καὶ Ἀριστοτέλης "as Aristotle also thinks"

τρόπον τινὰ *in some way (accusative of respect)*

ἐκ πέντε κόσμων "from five worlds"

σύγκειμενον *consisting (present participle)*

συνηρμοσμένον *joined together*

εἶναι *is [understand φησί "he says"] (infinitive of "to be" in indirect statement)*

ὧν *of which (genitive plural of the relative pronoun)*

ὁ μὲν...ὁ δὲ *one ... another ...*

γῆ, γῆς, ἡ *earth*

ὕδωρ, ὕδατος, τὸ *water*

πῦρ, πυρός, τὸ *fire*

ἀήρ, ἀέρος, ἡ/ὁ *air*

τρίτος, τέταρτος, πέμπτος *third, fourth, fifth*

οἱ δὲ *[but/and] others*

φῶς, φωτός, τὸ *light*

αἰθήρ, αἰθέρος, ἡ/ὁ *upper air*

αὐτὸ τοῦτο *this itself*

καλοῦσιν *they call*

οὐσία *essence, substance (πέμπτη οὐσία quintessence)*

Plutarch

Ἔτι δ' ἰσχύσασα μᾶλλον ἢ τῶν πέντε συμμετρία
καὶ δύναμις οὐκ εἴασεν εἰς ἄπειρα γένη
προελθεῖν τὸ ἔμψυχον, ἀλλὰ πέντε τῶν ζώντων
ἀπάντων ιδέας παρέσχευ. εἰσὶ γὰρ θεοὶ δήπου καὶ
δαίμονες καὶ ἥρωες καὶ μετὰ τούτους τὸ τέταρτον
ἄνθρωποι γένος, ἔσχατον δὲ καὶ πέμπτον τὸ
ἄλογον καὶ θηριῶδες.

Περὶ τοῦ Εἰ τοῦ ἐν Δελφοῖς Plutarch's *Moralia* 390

ἔτι *still, yet, moreover*

ἰσχύσασα μᾶλλον *having gained more strength* [than the other numbers]

δύναμις *power*

εἴασεν *did not permit* (aorist of εἴω)

εἰς ἄπειρα γένη *to unlimited kinds/types/classes*

προελθεῖν *to go forward, progress* (aorist infinitive of προ- ἔρχομαι)

τὸ ἔμψυχον *the animate, that which has life* (ψυχή)

τῶν ζώντων ἀπάντων *of all the living things*

ιδέα *form*

παρέσχευ *has produced* (aorist of παρέχω)

δήπου *particle, of course*

δαίμονες καὶ ἥρωες *daimones and heroes*

τὸ τέταρτον γένος *the fourth class/kind*

ἔσχατος,-η,-ον *last*

θηριώδης, θηριῶδες *adj. beast-like, wild*

Plutarch 3

ὁ μὲν γὰρ θεὸς ἕκαστον ἡμῶν ἐνταῦθα προσιόντα οἷον ἀσπαζόμενος προσαγορεύει τὸ «γνῶθι σαυτόν», ὃ δὴ τοῦ «χαῖρε» οὐδὲν μείον ἐστίν· ἡμεῖς δὲ πάλιν ἀμειβόμενοι τὸν θεόν, «εἶ» φαμέν, ὡς ἀληθῆ καὶ ἀψευδῆ καὶ μόνην μόνῳ προσήκουσαν τὴν τοῦ εἶναι προσαγόρευσιν ἀποδίδοντες.

περὶ τοῦ Εἰ τοῦ ἐν Δελφοῖς, Plutarch's *Moralia* 392

ἕκαστος, -η, -ον *each*

ἡμῶν *of us*

ἐνταῦθα *there, to that place (thither); here (hither)*

προσιόντα *going to, approaching* (participle, accusative, agrees with *each*)

οἷον *as it were*

ἀσπαζόμενος *greeting* (participle, nominative, agrees with Apollo)

προσαγορεύω *verb address*

γνῶθι σαυτόν "Know yourself."

χαῖρε *hail! hello! (rejoice)* Pl. χαίρετε

οὐδὲν *nothing*

μείον *less*

πάλιν *back, in turn*

ἀμειβόμενοι *answering* (participle)

ἀληθῆς *true*

ἀψευδῆς *unfalse, without deception*

προσήκουσαν *fitting, suitable* (fem. acc. sg.)

προσαγόρευσις *form of address*

ἀποδίδοντες *giving back* (participle, present active, nom., masc., pl.)