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AT HERACLITUS

We shall present here some observations on the expressions of Heraclitus: „ύγρη ψυχή“ and „αύη ψυχή“.

Heraclitus prefers the „αύη ψυχή“ instead of „ύγρη ψυχή“ because the dampness results to the annihilation of „ψυχή“ since it is his basic assumption that „ψυχή“ is „Fire“, according to his „Κοσμογόνος Ἀρχή“, and it is known that humidity can extinguish „Fire“ that is to say can annihilate „ψυχή“ and hence the mind ($\pi\eta\epsilon\mu\alpha = \psi\chi\eta$). So Heraclitus explains the phenomenon of the drunkard: „Ἀνήρ δικόταν μεθυσθῆ, ἀγεται ὑπό παιδός ἀνήβου σφαλλόμενος, οὐκ ἐπαίτων ὅκη βαίνει, ύγρήν τὴν ψυχήν ἔχων“ (Frg. 117 D—K) and so he safely concludes that the „αύη ψυχή σοφωτάτη καὶ ἀρίστη“ (Frg. 118 D—K).

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