

1. Thought is not about itself, nor about nothing; it is about reality, or about something,

2. Just as thought is about reality, or about something, so reality, or something, is what thought is about.

3. The statement, "There is reality," or "There is something," is necessarily true because the contradictory statement, "There is no reality," or "There is nothing," is *self*-contradictory and therefore necessarily false.

4. But, then, the statement, "There is necessary reality as well as contingent reality," or "There is something necessary as well as something contingent," is also necessarily true, and for the same reason—because the contradictory statement, "There is no necessary reality but only contingent reality," or "There is nothing necessary but only something contingent," is likewise *self*-contradictory and therefore necessarily false. (If there is no necessary reality, or if nothing is necessary, then the statement, "There is [only contingent] reality," or "There is [only] something [contingent]," could not be necessarily true but only contingently true, and the statement, "There is reality," or "There is something," which is necessarily true, could be—self-contradictorily—false.)

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