

HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY II

SPRING SEMESTER 2005

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LECTURE 1

PLATO'S THEORY OF IDEAS

Plato's theory of ideas is a central part of his philosophy. It is a theory of the nature of reality and knowledge. Plato believes that there are two worlds: the world of appearances and the world of ideas. The world of appearances is the world we live in, and it is full of change and imperfection. The world of ideas is a higher world, and it is full of truth and perfection. Ideas are eternal and unchanging, and they are the true reality. The world of appearances is a shadow of the world of ideas. Plato's theory of ideas is a response to the problem of how we can know anything about the world. He believes that we can only know the world of ideas, and that we can only know the world of ideas by looking at the world of appearances. He believes that the world of appearances is a reflection of the world of ideas, and that we can learn about the world of ideas by looking at the world of appearances. Plato's theory of ideas is a response to the problem of how we can know anything about the world. He believes that we can only know the world of ideas, and that we can only know the world of ideas by looking at the world of appearances. He believes that the world of appearances is a reflection of the world of ideas, and that we can learn about the world of ideas by looking at the world of appearances.

THE ALLEGORY OF THE CAVE

The Allegory of the Cave is a story that Plato uses to illustrate his theory of ideas. It is a story about a group of people who are living in a cave. They are sitting on the ground, and they are looking at a wall. On the wall, there are shadows of objects that are passing behind a screen. The people in the cave believe that the shadows are the real objects. They are trying to understand the shadows, and they are trying to learn about the world. One day, one of the people in the cave is freed. He is taken out of the cave, and he is shown the real world. He sees the real objects, and he realizes that the shadows were just shadows. He goes back to the cave, and he tells the other people about the real world. They do not believe him, and they think he is crazy. The Allegory of the Cave is a story that Plato uses to illustrate his theory of ideas. It is a story about a group of people who are living in a cave. They are sitting on the ground, and they are looking at a wall. On the wall, there are shadows of objects that are passing behind a screen. The people in the cave believe that the shadows are the real objects. They are trying to understand the shadows, and they are trying to learn about the world. One day, one of the people in the cave is freed. He is taken out of the cave, and he is shown the real world. He sees the real objects, and he realizes that the shadows were just shadows. He goes back to the cave, and he tells the other people about the real world. They do not believe him, and they think he is crazy.

- 1. The world of appearances is a shadow of the world of ideas.
- 2. The world of appearances is full of change and imperfection.
- 3. The world of ideas is a higher world, and it is full of truth and perfection.
- 4. Ideas are eternal and unchanging, and they are the true reality.
- 5. The world of appearances is a reflection of the world of ideas.
- 6. We can only know the world of ideas by looking at the world of appearances.
- 7. The world of appearances is a reflection of the world of ideas, and we can learn about the world of ideas by looking at the world of appearances.

Plato's theory of ideas is a response to the problem of how we can know anything about the world. He believes that we can only know the world of ideas, and that we can only know the world of ideas by looking at the world of appearances. He believes that the world of appearances is a reflection of the world of ideas, and that we can learn about the world of ideas by looking at the world of appearances.