

for the vast majority of men the fixed datum line from which they start, both in thinking and doing, in theory as well as in practice.

But it may also mean a view gained by distinct methods of reasoning which carry us away from and beyond what is immediately given by the evidence of our senses, into a region of more or less abstract thought. Of this nature are all the intricate reasonings of science as well as of philosophy. They gain their convincing force by a logical process which appeals to thinking persons, and is by them considered to be conclusive.

The further civilisation progresses, the more we have to leave behind us the simple evidence of the senses and of daily experience, and to move in that region of abstract thought which is gained by logical and scientific methods. Now it is well to note the great difference in the features which characterise the two ways of gaining and affording conviction. This difference can be shortly described by saying that the first, the simpler and the original method, is that of Sight, using this word in the larger sense of giving immediate evidence.

Things we see are, as it were, spread out before our mind's eye; they form a consistent and more or less permanent order. The mind is through them impressed by a totality, by an orderly arrangement through which it can at the same moment grasp the Whole and the various parts in their position in the Whole. The greater this grasp, or, as we called it before, the Synoptic View, the stronger is the conviction of the reality of the whole display. Breadth and clearness