

Gottfried Leibniz and Rationalism

Two categories of truth:

1. Truths of reason: claims that can be known on the basis of the laws of logic.
2. Truths of fact: claims that cannot be known on the basis of the laws of logic.

Laws of logic applying to No. 1.

Law of contradiction: A statement and its negation cannot both be true at the same time.

Law of the excluded middle: either a proposition is true or its negation is true.

Empirical Knowledge is "truths of fact" and is based on the principle of "sufficient reason". To be certified as true, there must be a sufficient reason "why it should be thus and not otherwise."