

The Greatest Moments in Western Philosophy

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1. The start of Book II of Plato's *Republic*, when Glaukon stops Socrates from declaring victory over Thrasymachos, and demands that he show that justice is good in itself.
2. The start of Book V of Plato's *Republic*, when, after having declared victory a second time, Socrates is forced to start the argument anew and introduce the Forms because Polemarchos leaned over to whisper in Adeimantos's ear about sex.
3. The preface to Nietzsche's *Beyond Good and Evil*, when the value of truth itself is called into question.
4. Aristotle's *Prior Analytics*.
5. Kant's transcendental deduction of the categories.
6. Socrates' demand in the *Apology* that he be allowed to defend himself and to cross-examine Meletus in his own style.
7. Parmenides' rejection of saying That Which Is Not.
8. The moment in Peirce's "The Doctrine of Chances" when he concludes that one must have Faith, Hope and Charity in order to be truly a logical reasoner.
9. Kierkegaard's description, in *Fear and Trembling*, of the utter irrationality of Abraham.
10. The finale of Plato's *Symposium*, from the moment when Alcibiades bursts in drunk as a skunk and Socrates vamps like a camp queen to the end when Socrates tries to prove to Aristophanes and Agathon that a good dramatist should be able to write both comedy and tragedy.
11. Marx's eleventh thesis on Feuerbach.
12. Hume's observation that distinct actual things bear no logical relation to each other.
13. The declaration of the Principle of Tolerance by Carnap in *The Logical Syntax of Language*.
14. The enunciation of the paradox bearing his name by Russell in a letter to Frege.
15. The master-slave dialectic in Hegel's *Phenomenology of Spirit*.