

# Necessitarianism

1903 | Lecture I [R] | MS [R] 451:5-6

---

...the doctrine of the necessitarians is that when the time for action comes, we act under a necessity which we cannot *then* control. I dare say they may be substantially right. We cannot control the actions that are past. But our future actions we can determine in a measure. Knowing that, we deliberate and formulate an ideal of conduct and then, having formulated our ideal, we go through a process similar to that of impressing a lesson on our memory, whereby mere resolutions are converted into determinations which are acquired *dispositions*.

1903 | Lowell Lectures. 1903. Sixth Lecture. Probability | CP 6.90

---

[Here] you have the three commonest forms of necessitarianism. *A* holds that every feature of all facts conforms to some law. *B* holds that the law fully determines every fact, but thinks that some relations of facts are accidental. *C* holds that uniformity within its jurisdiction is perfect, but confines its application to certain elements of phenomena.

1905 | Issues of Pragmaticism | MS [R] 290:52

---

...Necessitarianism is the doctrine that there is no objective indetermination of Modality; it abolishes objective necessity and possibility together, and only conceives the future as that which *will* have been.