

thoughts and licentious pleasures. So that to conclude this part, Tertullian and those of his opinion were not deceived in the nature of the place: but Aquinas, who misliked this opinion, and followed a worse. And (to say the truth) all the schoolmen were gross in this particular.

#### SECT. IX.

*Of the change of the names of places: and that besides that Eden in Calesyria, there is a country in Babylon, once of this name, as is proved out of Isaiah xxxvii. and Ezek. xxvii.*

THESE opinions answered, and the region of Eden not found in any of those imaginary worlds, nor under *torrida zona*; it followeth that now we discover and find out the seat thereof, for in it was paradise by God planted. The difficulty of which search resteth chiefly in this, that as all nations have often changed names with their masters; so are most of these places, by Moses remembered, forgotten by those names of all historians and geographers, as well ancient as modern.

Besides, we find that the Assyrians, Babylonians, Medes, and Persians (Cyrus only and few others excepted) sought to extinguish the Hebrews. The Grecians hated both their nation and their religion; and the Romans despised once to remember them in any of their stories. And as those three monarchies succeeded each other, so did they transform the names of all those principal places and cities in the east: and after them, the Turk hath sought (what he could) to extinguish in all things the ancient memory of those people, which he hath subjected and enthralled.

Now besides those notable marks, Euphrates and Tigris, the better to find the way which leadeth to the country of Eden, we are to take for guides these two considerations, to wit, that it lay eastward from Canaan and Judea; and that it was of all others the most beautiful and fertile. First then in respect of situation, the next country to Judea eastward was Arabia Petræa; but in this region was Moses himself when he wrote: and the next unto it eastward also was Arabia the Desert, both which, in respect of the infertility,