

the holy writ teaches, and particularly not to blend bad philosophy with the purity of divine truth. These precautions, which the respect we owe to the Almighty exacts, being taken, what remains for examination on the subject of the deluge? Does the scripture say that mountains were formed by the deluge? No, it says the contrary. Is it said that the agitation of the waters were so great as to raise up shells from the bottom of the sea, and transport them all over the earth? No; the ark floated quietly on the surface of the waters. Is it said, that the Earth suffered a total dissolution? No: the recital of the sacred historian is simple and true, that of naturalists complex and fabulous.