

passages of Scripture, unclean animals are employed to symbolize evil and unclean *spirits* as well as *men*, as the serpent, the dragon, or crocodile,\* the lion,† and the scorpion.‡

By way of corollary to the present short chapter, I shall devote a few pages to a very interesting subject, intimately connected with the animals whose history and habits I have just described, and which marks out the plan upon which the wisdom, power, and goodness of the Creator have been manifested in animal structures. I allude to what has been named the *conversion* of organs, by which term is meant, not only in particular instances, multiplying the functions of any given organ, as, for instance, when the *tail* of an animal is employed like a *hand*, to take hold of the branch of a tree, and to assist in locomotion, as in the chameleon and certain monkeys;§ and the tongue is also made to subserve to prehension, as in the case of the giraffe; but likewise when the organ is converted from one use to another, as when the anterior leg is taken from locomotion and given to prehension, as the human hand; or as when all the ordinary organs of locomotion in one tribe are in another converted into oral organs, either to assist in mastication, or to discharge the office of a lip, as in the Crustaceans and centipedes. In the investigation of this curious and interesting subject, the class of Myriapods affords an example, if I may so speak, of the gradual conversion of locomotive organs into auxiliary oral ones. Something of this kind, I have before stated,|| is discoverable in certain Annelidans, either related to those animals or their analogues.

In the *Introduction to Entomology* it is observed, with respect to the larves of many *Hexapod* Condylopes, that their progress towards what is called their perfect state, is by

\* Rev. xx. 2.

† 1 Pet. v. 8.

‡ Luke x. 19.

§ Ateles.

|| See above, Vol. i. p. 317.