

Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	ix
<i>Abbreviations</i>	xi
Introduction	I
1 Worlds visible and invisible	11
The wisdom of the world	11
The three senses	15
Words and things	28
2 Sensible signs and spoken words	34
The ascendancy of the physical	34
The discovery of nature	39
Reading nature: the whole and the parts	44
Restoring lost likenesses	56
3 The two reformations	64
Aristotle and the encyclopaedias	64
Texts and the empirical world	78
New worlds	82
Corrupt texts and reformed religion	92
The literal sense and the material world	107
4 Re-reading the two books	121
Genesis and history	121
Modifications of the literal: typology and accommodation	129
The cosmology of Moses	138
The science of the last things	147

5	The purpose of nature	161
	The ends of the creation	161
	Divine designs and human utilities	169
	The centre of the universe	177
	The natural world and the moral order	185
	God and the book of nature	193
6	Eden restored	205
	Paradise within	205
	The fall	211
	The deluge and confusion of tongues	222
	Reversing the curse	226
	Replanting the garden	235
	Learning the language of nature	249
	Conclusion	266
	<i>References</i>	274
	<i>Index</i>	306