

the lips of Angels, when falling on their faces they worshipped God.—(Rev. vii. 12.) Appropriate language for Elders and for Angels to employ in heaven ; fitting language, too, for Christians on earth to employ ! For what does it imply on the part of those who use it ? The desire to do what in them lies to render to God the hearty homage which a sense of the might, and the majesty, and the attributes of Deity convinces them to be His due. Such language implies their willing recognition of His sovereignty—their eagerness to magnify and to exalt him, and to acknowledge His omnipotence.

“ But in the text, St. Paul does not simply ascribe glory unto God in general terms—he specifies the *channel* through which it is to be presented, using the remarkable expression ‘unto him be glory in the Church.’

“ What then are we to understand by the word Church ? A much vexed question this, my brethren, which men have interpreted in different ways, but of which we know no better definition than that contained in our ninth Article. ‘The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men, in the which the pure word of God is preached, and the sacraments be duly administered according to Christ’s ordinance in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same.’

“ This Church, or as in the Greek and Latin it is styled ‘Ecclesia,’ owes its foundation to the blessed Son of God, who coming down from heaven, and assuming for a while our nature, selected as his immediate attendants and officers, twelve men named Apostles, to whom ere He left the world He committed the