

tion, an angel says to John, "Come hither, I will show thee the bride, the wife of the Lamb", and then shews him the glorified Church. (Rev. 21 :9).

But Jesus tells us of a still more vital relationship between Himself and His people than is expressed under either of the terms of Husband or Father. John has preserved His words in the 15th Chapter of his Gospel, where Jesus is giving to His disciples that beautiful farewell discourse that has been called "The Holy of Holies" in the life of Christ. The whole point of this part of Christ's discourse turns upon the idea of the Vital Relationship which subsists between Him and those who believe upon Him. He says, "I am the True Vine, and My Father is the Husbandman..... Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; so neither can ye, except ye abide in Me. *I Am the Vine, Ye are the Branches*: He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same beareth much fruit: for apart from Me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in Me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned".

That this picture of the vital relationship between Christ and His people was meant by Him as something more than a piece of beautiful imagery, is manifest from His words to Saul, who was called Paul, when Jesus stayed him that day on the road to Damascus.

In the light of Christ's words in John's Gospel, it will be instructive to look at that incident. It is