

The Epistle of Paul to
Philemon
[PHILEMON]

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Salutation

- 1 Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy *our* brother,
¶ Unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellow laborer,
2 and to *our* beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellow soldier, and
to the church in thy house:
3 ¶ Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ.

Philemon's Love and Faith

- 4 ¶ I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers,
5 hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord
Jesus, and toward all saints;
6 that the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the
acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.
7 For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because the
bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother.

Paul Pleads for Onesimus

- 8 ¶ Wherefore, though I might be much bold in Christ to enjoin thee
that which is convenient,
9 yet for love's sake I rather beseech *thee*, being such a one as Paul the
aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ.
10 I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my
bonds:
11 which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to
thee and to me:

- 12 whom I have sent again: thou therefore receive him, that is, mine own bowels:
- 13 whom I would have retained with me, that in thy stead he might have ministered unto me in the bonds of the gospel:
- 14 but without thy mind would I do nothing; that thy benefit should not be as it were of necessity, but willingly.
- 15 ¶ For perhaps he therefore departed for a season, that thou shouldest receive him for ever;
- 16 not now as a servant, but above a servant, a brother beloved, specially to me, but how much more unto thee, both in the flesh, and in the Lord?
- 17 If thou count me therefore a partner, receive him as myself.
- 18 If he hath wronged thee, or oweth *thee* aught, put that on mine account;
- 19 I Paul have written *it* with mine own hand, I will repay *it*: albeit I do not say to thee how thou owest unto me even thine own self besides.
- 20 Yea, brother, let me have joy of thee in the Lord: refresh my bowels in the Lord.
- 21 ¶ Having confidence in thy obedience I wrote unto thee, knowing that thou wilt also do more than I say.
- 22 But withal prepare me also a lodging: for I trust that through your prayers I shall be given unto you.

Final Greetings

- 23 ¶ There salute thee Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus;
- 24 Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow laborers.
- 25 ¶ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with your spirit. Amen.