

{57} Philemon

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- (1) Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy *our* brother, to Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellow laborer,
- (2) And to *our* beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:
- (3) Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- (4) I thank my God, making mention of you always in my prayers,
- (5) Hearing of your love and faith, which you have towards the Lord Jesus, and towards all saints;
- (6) That the communication of your faith may become effective by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.
- (7) Because we have great joy and comfort in your love, because the hearts of the saints are refreshed by you, brother.
- (8) Therefore, though I might be very bold in Christ to require you to do what is right,
- (9) Yet for love's sake I rather urge *you*, as an elderly Paul, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ.
- (10) I urge you for my son Onesimus, whom I have fathered in my bonds:
- (11) Who was in time past unprofitable to you, but now is profitable to you and to me:
- (12) Whom I have sent back to you: therefore receive him, who is, my own heart:
- (13) Whom I would have kept with me, that in your place he might have ministered to me in the bonds of the gospel:
- (14) But without your consent I would do nothing; that your good deed should not be of necessity, but willingly.
- (15) Because perhaps he departed from you for a season in order that you should receive him forever;
- (16) Not now as a servant, but above a servant, a beloved brother, especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh, and in the Lord?
- (17) If you count me therefore a partner, receive him as myself.
- (18) If he has wronged you, or owes *you* anything, put that on my account;
- (19) I Paul have written *it* with my own hand, I will repay *it*: although I do not say to you how you owe to me even your own self besides.
- (20) Yes, brother, let me have joy because of you in the Lord: refresh my heart in the Lord.
- (21) Having confidence in your obedience I wrote to you, knowing that you will also do more than I say.
- (22) But prepare for me also a lodging: because I trust that through your prayers I shall be given to you.
- (23) Salute Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus;
- (24) Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellow laborers.
- (25) The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with your spirit. Amen {Let it be}.