

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO PHILEMON

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 thy house: ³ Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, ⁵ Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast towards the Lord Jesus, and towards 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. ⁸ Wherefore, though I might be very bold in Christ to enjoin thee that which is convenient. ⁹ Yet for love's sake I rather beseech *thee*, being such 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 Who 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, my own bowels: ¹³ Whom I would have retained with me, that in thy stead he might have ministered to me in the bonds of the gospel: ¹⁴ But without thy mind I would 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 shouldst receive him for ever; ¹⁶ Not now as a servant, but above a servant, a brother beloved, specially to me, but how much more to thee, both in the flesh, and in the Lord? ¹⁷ If thou accountest me therefore a partner, receive him as myself. ¹⁸ If he hath wronged thee, or oweth *thee* aught, 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 thee that thou owest to me even thy own self besides. ²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have joy of thee in the Lord: refresh my bowels in the Lord. ²¹ Having confidence in thy obedience I wrote to thee, knowing that thou wilt also do more than I say. ²² But at the same time prepare me also a lodging; for I trust that through your prayers I shall be given to you. ²³ There salute thee 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.

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