## **Philemon**

- <sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and the brother Timothy to Philemon, our dear friend and fellow worker,
- <sup>2</sup> and to Apphia our sister, and to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church that meets in your home.
- <sup>3</sup> May grace be to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- <sup>4</sup> I always thank my God. I mention you in my prayers.
- <sup>5</sup> I have heard of the love and the faith that you have in the Lord Jesus and for all the believers.
- <sup>6</sup> I pray that the fellowship of your faith may be effective for the knowledge of everything good that is among us in Christ.
- <sup>7</sup> For I have had much joy and comfort because of your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed by you, brother.
- <sup>8</sup> Therefore, although I have all the boldness in Christ to command you to do what you should do.
- <sup>9</sup> yet because of love, I appeal to you instead—I, Paul, an old man, and now a prisoner for Christ Jesus.
- <sup>10</sup> I am asking you concerning my child Onesimus, whom I have fathered in my chains.
- <sup>11</sup> For he once was useless to you, but now he is useful both to you and to me.

- <sup>12</sup> I have sent him back to you, he who is my very heart.
- <sup>13</sup> I wish I could have kept him with me, so he could serve me for you, while I am in chains for the sake of the gospel.
- <sup>14</sup> But I did not want to do anything without your consent. I did not want your good deed to be from necessity but from good will.

<sup>15</sup> Perhaps for this he was separated from you for a time, so that you might have him back forever.

<sup>16</sup> No longer would he be a slave, but better than a slave, a beloved brother. He is beloved especially to me, and much more so to you, in both the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup> So if you have me as a partner, receive him

as me.

- <sup>18</sup> If he has wronged you or owes you anything, charge that to me.
- <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, write this with my own hand. I myself will pay it back—not to mention that you owe me your own self!
- <sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, do me a favor in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ.
- <sup>21</sup> Confident about your obedience, I am writing to you. I know that you will do even more than I ask.
- <sup>22</sup> At the same time, prepare a guest room for me, for I hope that through your prayers I will be given back to you.
- <sup>23</sup> Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you.
- <sup>24</sup> So do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers.

 $^{25}$  May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

## Unlocked Literal Bible The Holy Bible in English, Unlocked Literal Bible translation

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