THE EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE
TO PHILEMON

1 Paul a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and our brother
Timoteus, vnto Philemon our deare friende, and followe
helper, 2 And to our deare sister Apphia, and to Archippus
our followe souldier, and to the Church that is in thine
house: 3 Grace be with you, and peace from God our
Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. 4 I giue thanks to
my God, making mention alwaies of thee in my praiers,
5 (When I heare of thy loue and faith, which thou hast
toward the Lord Jesus, and towarde all Saintes) 6 That the
fellowship of thy faith may bee made effectuall, and that
whatsoever good thing is in you through Christ Jesus, may
be known. 7 For we haue great joy and consolacion in
thy loue, because by thee, brother, the Saintes bowels
are comforted. 8 Wherefore, though I bee very bolde
in Christ to commaund thee that which is conuenient,
9 Yet for loues sake I rather beseeche thee, though I be
as I am, euen Paul aged, and euen nowe a prisoner for
Jesus Christ. 10 I beseeche thee for my sonne Onesimus,
whome I haue begotten in my bondes, 11 Which in times
past was to thee vnprofitable, but nowe profitable both
to thee and to me, 12 Whome I haue sent againe: thou
therefore receive him, that is mine owne bowels, 13 Whom
I woulde haue reteined with mee, that in thy steade
he might haue ministred vnto me in the bondes of the
Gospel. 14 But without thy minde woulde I doe nothing,
that thy benefite should not be as it were of necessitie,
but willingly. 15 It may be that he therefore departed
for a season, that thou shouldest receive him for euer,
16 Not now as a servant, but aboue a servant, euen as a
brother beloued, specially to me: howe much more then vnto thee, both in the flesh and in the Lord? 17 If therefore thou count our thinges common, receiue him as my selfe. 18 If he hath hurt thee, or oweth thee ought, that put on mine accounts. 19 I Paul haue written this with mine owne hande: I will recompense it, albeit I doe not say to thee, that thou owest moreouer vnto me euen thine owne selfe. 20 Yea, brother, let mee obteine this pleasure of thee in the Lord: comfort my bowels in the Lord. 21 Trusting in thine obedience, I wrote vnto thee, knowing that thou wilt do eue more then I say. 22 Moreouer also prepare mee lodging: for I trust through your prayers I shall be freely giuen vnto you. 23 There salute thee Epaphras my felowe prisoner in Christ Iesus, 24 Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke, my felowe helpers. 25 The grace of our Lord Iesus Christ be with your spirit, Amen. ‘Written from Rome to Philemon, and send by Onesimus a seruant.’