

## Philemon

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy the brother, to Philemon our beloved and fellow-worker,

<sup>2</sup> and Apphia the beloved, and Archippus our fellow-soldier, and the assembly in your house:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

<sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my God, always making mention of you in my prayers,

<sup>5</sup> hearing of your love and faith that you have to the Lord Jesus and toward all the holy ones,

<sup>6</sup> that the fellowship of your faith may become working in the full knowledge of every good thing that [is] in you toward Christ Jesus;

<sup>7</sup> for we have much joy and comfort in your love, because the yearnings of the holy ones have been refreshed through you, brother.

<sup>8</sup> For this reason, having in Christ much boldness to command you that which is fit—

<sup>9</sup> because of the love I rather plead, being such a one as Paul the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ;

<sup>10</sup> I beg you concerning my child—whom I begot in my bonds—Onesimus,

<sup>11</sup> who once was to you unprofitable, and now is profitable to me and to you,

<sup>12</sup> whom I sent again to you—he who is my own heart,

<sup>13</sup> whom I intended to retain to myself, that in your behalf he might minister to me in the bonds of the good news,

<sup>14</sup> but apart from your mind I willed to do nothing, so that your good deed may not be as of necessity, but of willingness,

<sup>15</sup> for perhaps because of this he departed for an hour, that you may have him continuously,

<sup>16</sup> no longer as a servant, but above a servant—a beloved brother, especially to me, and how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the LORD!

<sup>17</sup> If, then, you have fellowship with me, receive him as me,

<sup>18</sup> and if he did hurt to you, or owes anything, charge this to me;

<sup>19</sup> I, Paul, wrote with my hand, I will repay; besides, that I may not say that you also owe to me yourself.

<sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, may I have profit of you in the LORD; refresh my yearnings in the LORD;

<sup>21</sup> I wrote to you having been confident in your obedience, having known that you will also do above what I may say;

<sup>22</sup> and at the same time also prepare for me a lodging, for I hope that through your prayers I will be granted to you.

<sup>23</sup> Epaphras greets you (my fellow-captive in Christ Jesus),

<sup>24</sup> Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellow-workmen!

<sup>25</sup> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ [is] with your spirit! Amen.

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Note that in addition to the rules above, revising and adapting God's Word involves a great responsibility to be true to God's Word. See Revelation 22:18-19.

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