THE LETTER OF PAUL TO PHILEMON

1 Paul, a prisoner for *Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon, our beloved friend and fellow worker, 2 and to †the beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church that meets in your house: 3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I give thanks to my God, always making mention of you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints. 6 I pray that your fellowship with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every blessing that ‡we have in Christ §Jesus. 7 *We are very thankful for the comfort we have received from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, brother.

8 Therefore, although I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is right, 9 I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love. I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner for †Jesus Christ, 10 appeal to you on behalf of my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. 11 Once he was useless to you, but now he is useful both to you and to me. I am sending him ‡back,
and I ask you to receive him, that is, my very own heart. I wanted to keep him with me so that he could serve me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel. But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that your good deed might not be done out of compulsion, but of your own free will. Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for an hour was so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave, but more than a slave, as a beloved brother, especially to me, but even more so to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me to be a partner, receive him as you would receive me. If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge it to me. I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it (not to mention that you owe me your very own life). Yes, brother, let me have some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in the Lord.

Trusting in your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask. At the same time, I want you to prepare a guest room for me, for I hope that through your prayers I will be restored to you.


The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.
Written from Rome to Philemon and delivered by Onesimus, a servant.†

† 1:25 This scribal note is included in the colophons of many Greek manuscripts.
Text-Critical English New Testament
The New Testament based on the Critical Greek Text,
Text-Critical English New Testament translation

Copyright © 2022 Robert Adam Boyd

Language: English

Draft version
This translation is made available to you under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Share-Alike license 4.0.

You have permission to share and redistribute this Bible translation in any format and to make reasonable revisions and adaptations of this translation, provided that:

You include the above copyright and source information.
If you make any changes to the text, you must indicate that you did so in a way that makes it clear that the original licensor is not necessarily endorsing your changes.
If you redistribute this text, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original.

Pictures included with Scriptures and other documents on this site are licensed just for use with those Scriptures and documents. For other uses, please contact the respective copyright owners.

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.

2022-07-22

PDF generated using Haiola and XeLaTeX on 22 Aug 2022 from source files dated 22 Aug 2022
50ce9ed2-fa83-529c-94a1-cd41aedd238c