

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO PHILEMON

PAUL, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy *our* brother,
unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer,

2 And to *our* beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier,
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 toward the
Lord Jesus, and toward 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 much bold in Christ to enjoin
thee that which is convenient,

9 Yet for love's sake I rather beseech *thee*, being such an 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 Which 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,
mine own bowels:

13 Whom I would have retained with me, that in thy stead he

might have ministered unto me in the bonds of the gospel:

14 But without thy mind would I 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
shouldest receive him for ever;

16 Not now as a servant, but above a servant, a brother beloved,
specially to me, but how much more unto thee, both in the
flesh, and in the Lord?

17 If thou count me therefore a partner, receive him as myself.

18 If he hath wronged thee, or oweth *thee* ought, put that on
mine account;

19 I Paul have written *it* with mine own hand, I will repay *it*:
albeit I do not say to thee how thou owest unto me even thine
own self besides.

20 Yea, brother, let me have joy of thee in the Lord: refresh my
bowels in the Lord.

21 Having confidence in thy obedience I wrote unto thee,
knowing that thou wilt also do more than I say.

22 But withal prepare me also a lodging: for I trust that through
your prayers I shall be given unto you.

23 There salute thee Epaphras, my fellowprisoner in Christ
Jesus;

24 Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellowlabourers.

25 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with your spirit. Amen.

¶ Written from Rome to Philemon, by Onesimus a servant.