THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO PHĪ-LĒ-MON

PÂUL, a prisoner of Jē-sus Chrīst, and Tim-ŏ-thy our brother, might have ministered unto me in the bonds of the gospel: unto Phī-lē-mon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer,

2 And to our beloved Apph-ı̃-a, and Är-chip-pus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house:

3 Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jē-sus 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 Jē-'sŭs, 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 Chrīst Jē-sŭs.

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 Jē'sŭs Chrīst.

10 I beseech thee for my son Ō-něs-ĭ-mŭs, 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

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

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 Ep'a-phras, my fellowprisoner in Christ

24 Mär-cus, Ar-is-tär-chus, Dē-mas, Lû-cas, my fellowlabourers. 25 The grace of our Lord Jē-sus Chrīst be with your spirit. Ä-mĕn.

¶ Written from Rome to Phī-le-mon, by Ō-nes-i-mus a servant.