

Philemon

- 1:1** Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved fellow worker
- 1:2** and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:
- 1:3** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 1:4** I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers,
- 1:5** because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints,
- 1:6** and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ.
- 1:7** For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.
- 1:8** Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required,
- 1:9** yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you--I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus--
- 1:10** I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment.
- 1:11** (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.)
- 1:12** I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart.
- 1:13** I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel,
- 1:14** but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord.
- 1:15** For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever,
- 1:16** no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother--especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.
- 1:17** So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me.
- 1:18** If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account.
- 1:19** I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it--to say nothing of your owing me even your own self.
- 1:20** Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

1:21 Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

1:22 At the same time, prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping that through your prayers I will be graciously given to you.

1:23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you,

1:24 and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers.

1:25 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.