

# PHILEMON

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon, our beloved one and fellow-worker, <sup>2</sup>and to Apphia our sister, and to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church at your house: <sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

## *I Thank God For Your Love, And Pray That Your Faith May Become Effective*

<sup>4</sup>I am giving-thanks to my God always while making mention of you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup>hearing-of your love and the faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, <sup>6</sup>so that the fellowship of your faith may become effective in the knowledge of every good thing in us for Christ. <sup>7</sup>For I had much joy and encouragement in your love, because the deep-feelings of the saints have been refreshed through you, brother.

## *I Appeal To You For Onesimus, Your Slave And Our Beloved Brother*

<sup>8</sup>Therefore, [although] having much boldness in Christ to be commanding you to do the fitting thing, <sup>9</sup>for the sake of love I am rather appealing— being such a one as Paul, an old-man, and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup>I am appealing to you concerning my child whom I fathered in my imprisonment, Onesimus, <sup>11</sup>the one formerly useless to you but now useful both to you and to me, <sup>12</sup>whom I sent-back to you (him! That is, my own deep-feelings!), <sup>13</sup>whom I was wishing to hold-back with myself in order that on behalf of you he might be serving me in my imprisonment for the good-news. <sup>14</sup>But without your consent I wanted to do nothing, in order that your good deed should not be as-if based-on compulsion, but based-on willingness. <sup>15</sup>For perhaps for this reason he was separated for an hour: in order that you might receive him in full forever, <sup>16</sup>no longer as a slave, but beyond a slave, a beloved brother— especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord!

## *Accept Him As Me, And Charge His Debts To My Account*

<sup>17</sup>Therefore if you hold me as a partner, accept him as me. <sup>18</sup>And if as to anything he wronged you or owes you, charge this to my account— <sup>19</sup>I, Paul, wrote this with my own hand, I will repay— in order that I may not be saying to you that you indeed owe yourself to me! <sup>20</sup>Yes, brother, may I profit from you in the Lord. Refresh my deep-feelings in Christ.

## *I Have Confidence In Your Response, And Hope To See You Soon*

<sup>21</sup>I wrote to you having confidence in your obedience, knowing that you will do even beyond the things which I am saying. <sup>22</sup>And at the same time also, prepare lodging for me, for I hope that through your prayers I shall be granted to you. <sup>23</sup>Epaphras, my fellow-captive in Christ Jesus, greets you, <sup>24</sup>as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow-workers. <sup>25</sup>The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.