



Philemon



1 ¶ Paul, a ^aprisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy *our* brother, to Philemon our dearly beloved and fellow worker,

2 and to our sister Apphia, and ^bArchippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in your house.

3 ¶ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving and Prayer

4 ¶ I thank my God, making mention of you always in my prayers,

5 ^dhearing of your love and faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all saints,

6 so that the sharing of your faith may become effective ^ethrough the acknowledgement of ^fevery good thing that is in us in Christ.

7 For we have great joy and comfort in your love because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed by you, brother.

Plea on Behalf of Onesimus

8 ¶ Therefore, though I might be very bold in Christ to order you *to do* what is proper,

9 yet for love's sake I rather appeal *to you*, being such a one as Paul the aged, and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus.

10 I appeal to you for my son ^sOne-simus, whom I have begotten in my chains,

11 who formerly was to you unprofitable, but now profitable to you and to me.

12 ¶ I am sending him back to you in person, that is, my own heart,

13 whom I desired to retain with me, so that on your behalf he might have ministered to me in the chains of the gospel.

14 But without your consent I did not want to do anything so ^hthat your goodness would not be, as it were, by compulsion, but willingly.

15 ¶ For perhaps he departed for a season so that you should receive him forever,

16 not now as a bondservant, but more than a bondservant, a beloved brother, especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the ⁱflesh and in the Lord.

17 ¶ If you count me a partner, receive him as *you would* me.

18 If he has wronged you or owes *you* anything, put that on my account.

19 I, Paul, am writing *it* with my own ^jhand. I will repay *it*. I do not want to mention to you how you owe me even your own self as well.

20 Yes, brother, let me have joy from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in the Lord.

21 ¶ ^kHaving confidence in your obedience, I wrote to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

22 But at the same time prepare *for* me also a guest room, for ^lI trust that ^mthrough your prayers I will be restored to you.

23 ¶ ⁿEpaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you,

24 *as well as* ^oMark, ^pAristarchus, ^qDemas, ^rLuke, my fellow workers.

25 ¶ ^sThe grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with your spirit.