

# PHILEMON

**Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ,** and Timothy our brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellow-labourer, <sup>2</sup>and to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in thy house: <sup>3</sup>Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, <sup>5</sup>hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints; <sup>6</sup>that the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup>For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother. <sup>8</sup>Wherefore, though I might be much bold in Christ to enjoin thee that which is convenient, <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds: <sup>11</sup>which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me: <sup>12</sup>whom I have sent again: thou therefore receive him, that is, mine own bowels: <sup>13</sup>whom I would have retained with me, that in thy stead he might have ministered unto me in the bonds of the gospel: <sup>14</sup>but without thy mind would I do nothing; that thy benefit should not be as it were of necessity, but willingly. <sup>15</sup>For perhaps he therefore departed for a season, that thou shouldest receive him for ever; <sup>16</sup>not now as a servant, but above a ser-

vant, a brother beloved, specially to me, but how much more unto thee, both in the flesh, and in the Lord? <sup>17</sup>If thou count me therefore a partner, receive him as myself. <sup>18</sup>If he hath wronged thee, or oweth thee ought, put that on mine account; <sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>Yea, brother, let me have joy of thee in the Lord: refresh my bowels in the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Having confidence in thy obedience I wrote unto thee, knowing that thou wilt also do more than I say. <sup>22</sup>But withal prepare me also a lodging: for I trust that through your prayers I shall be given unto you.

<sup>23</sup>There salute thee Epaphras, my fellow-prisoner in Christ Jesus; <sup>24</sup>Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellow-labourers.

<sup>25</sup>The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.



*Paul the Apostle*