

The Book Of Philemon

Verse 1:1 Paul, from one bound for my commitment to Jesus Christ, and from Timothy our brother, unto Philemon our precious and loved brother, and fellow minister,

Verse 1:2 And to our loved Apphia, and Archippus a Christian warrior, and to the church meeting in your home:

Verse 1:3 Gracious favor to you, and peaceful union from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Verse 1:4 I thank my God for you and always bring you up in my prayers,

Verse 1:5 Because I hear of your love and faith, which you have toward the risen Lord Jesus, and toward all those who have separated to this message.

Verse 1:6 My prayer has been that the sharing of your faith may become more effectual by acknowledging all the good things that are in you as a result of union into Christ Jesus' life.

Verse 1:7 For we have great joy and comfort in your love for everyone, because the hearts of the committed followers tell me that they are refreshed by you, brother.

Verse 1:8 Because you have shown such care for God's own, though I might have the right to express my point because of my authority in the message of Christ to cause you to do the right thing,

Verse 1:9 Yet, because of the great love you have shown for the needy I rather beseech you, seeing how any input I once had has been minimized because of my extreme age and the fact that I am also imprisoned because of Jesus Christ.

Verse 1:10 I want to make a humble request of you for my spiritual son named Onesimus, whom I have brought into the family of God while we both were here in prison:

Verse 1:11 Who, in time past, was unprofitable to you based on his rebellious spirit, but is now profitable to you and to me due to his spiritual new birth:

Verse 1:12 Whom I have sent back to you: so please receive him, that is, receive my own heart and view of him:

Verse 1:13 Whom I would have kept with me here, that, as a representative of your heart toward me, he might have ministered unto me during my imprisonment for the gospel:

Verse 1:14 But without knowing how you felt about this arrangement and not having your permission, I didn't want to do anything; so that if you chose to bless me in this way it would be because you wanted to and not because I put you in a position where you had to.

Verse 1:15 For, maybe God's plan was that he depart from you for a season in one state, so that you would receive him back for ever into a whole new relationship;

Verse 1:16 No longer just looked upon as a runaway slave, but beyond just being slave labor, now he is seen as a

loved brother in the Lord. He is particularly viewed that way by me, but how much more should he be treated that way by you, both in how you relate in the earth as well as how you relate in matters of the Lord?

Verse 1:17 If you consider me to be a partner in the gospel and someone worthy of honor then please receive him as you would treat me. Let any honor due to me be given to him.

Verse 1:18 If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you for anything please put that on my account;

Verse 1:19 I, Paul have written this with my own hand so it can be considered a legal document, I will repay the debt he has built up because I am constrained to do so by the nature of the Lamb within: however, I would rather not mention how I stood in the gap for you in the past and you also owe a “life-debt”.

Verse 1:20 But brother, let me have joy over a response based on oneness in the Lord: refresh my heart in the flow of the life of the Lord.

Verse 1:21 It is because I have confidence in your obedience to the nature of Christ that I have written to you, knowing that you are of such a heart that you would go well beyond any suggestions I might have made.

Verse 1:22 All this being said, prepare for me to stay with you: for I trust that through your prayers I shall be able to come again to your home and services.

Verse 1:23 Greet among your group Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus;

Verse 1:24 Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellow ministers.

Verse 1:25 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with the spirit in which you handle these things. Amen.