

## The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to Philemon

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy the brother,  
To Philemon the beloved and our co-worker, <sup>2</sup> and to Apphia the beloved, and Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the assembly at your house:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I am thanking my God always, making mention of you upon my prayers, <sup>5</sup> hearing of your devotion and belief which you are having toward the Lord Jesus and for all the holy ones, <sup>6</sup> that the fellowship of your belief might become operative in a recognition of every good which is in us for Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup> For we have much thanksgiving and encouragement over your devotion, because the bowels of the holy ones have been refreshed through you, brother.

<sup>8</sup> Therefore, having much boldness in Christ to command you that which is proper, <sup>9</sup> through the devotion I am rather encouraging, being such a one as Paul, an elderly man, but now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ. <sup>10</sup> I am encouraging you concerning my child whom I begot in my bonds – Onesimus – <sup>11</sup> the one once unprofitable to you, but now useful to you and to me, <sup>12</sup> whom I sent back. But you, receive him (that is, my own bowels) <sup>13</sup> whom I wished to hold with me, that in your behalf he might be serving me in the bonds of the good message. <sup>14</sup> But without your consent I wished to do nothing, so that your good might not be according to necessity, but voluntary. <sup>15</sup> For perhaps on account of this he was taken away for an hour, so that you might have him everlastingly – <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 flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup> If then, you are having me as a partner, receive him as me. <sup>18</sup> But if he wronged you in anything or is owing you, this be charging to me. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, wrote with my hand: “I will repay,” lest I say to you that you owe to me even yourself. <sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, I may profit from you in the Lord. Refresh my bowels in the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Having been persuaded of your obedience I wrote to you, having known that you will do even beyond what I am saying. <sup>22</sup> But meanwhile, also be preparing me a guestroom, for I am expecting that through your prayers I will be granted to you.

<sup>23</sup> Epaphras, my fellow-captive in Christ Jesus, <sup>24</sup> Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my co-workers greet you.

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