

Chapter 1

Philemon

1Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy *our* brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer, **(Serving the Lord can land a Christian in jail or result in death. This is part of counting the cost of following Christ, (Luke 14:25-33) so someone wanting to become a Christian should consider this beforehand.)** **2**And to *our* beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house: **(Church doesn't have to be held in a building; it can be held in homes.)** **3**Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, **5**Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints; **(Thanking God for a fellow Christian's faith and love towards others and asking Him to continue giving them strength and opportunities is a good example to follow.)** **6**That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. **(Good works (For examples of this, see chapter 39 of the pdf file book featured at this website – www.areasureyouaresaved.com) should be done after someone becomes a Christian. (James 2:14-26))** **7**For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother. **(A byproduct of this is that fellow Christians' needs are met.)**

8Wherefore, though I might be much bold in Christ to enjoin thee that which is convenient, **9**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.

10I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds: **11**Which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me: **(Paul wanted Philemon to put his faith into action and show kindness to Onesimus, who was a new man after Paul led him to the Lord.)** **12**Whom I have sent again: thou therefore receive him, that is, mine own bowels: **13**Whom I would have retained with me, that in thy stead he might have ministered unto me in the bonds of the gospel: **14**But without thy mind would I do nothing; that thy benefit should not be as it were of necessity, but willingly. **(Helping and showing kindness should be done willingly by a Christian and not be forced.)** **15**For perhaps he therefore departed for a season, that thou shouldest receive him for ever; **16**Not now as a servant, but above a servant, a brother beloved, specially to me, but how much more unto thee, both in the flesh, and in the Lord?

17If thou count me therefore a partner, receive him as myself. **(Young Christians should be loved and accepted just as much as fellow mature Christians.)** **18**If he hath wronged thee, or oweth *thee* ought, put that on mine account; **(A Christian should pay money they owe to others, (Romans 13:7-8) but if someone insists on paying their debt, they can accept help.)** **19**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. **20**Yea, brother, let me have joy of thee in the Lord: refresh my bowels in the Lord.

21Having confidence in thy obedience I wrote unto thee, knowing that thou wilt also do more than I say.

22But withal prepare me also a lodging: for I trust that through your prayers I shall be given unto you.

23There salute thee Epaphras, my fellowprisoner in Christ Jesus; **24**Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellowlabourers.

25The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with your spirit. Amen. {*Written from Rome to Philemon, by Onesimus a servant.*

If you have prayed or made a decision to become a Christian, but you haven't been obeying the verses in this chapter, please follow chapter 10 of the pdf file book featured at this website - www.areasureyouaresaved.com

If you have never prayed or made a decision to become a Christian, please follow chapter 41 of the pdf file book featured at this website - www.areasureyouaresaved.com

If you have prayed or made a decision to become a Christian, but you are not sure you are really a Christian (Hebrews 11:6, Matthew 21:18-22, 1 John 5:14, and Hebrews 11:1), please follow chapter 41 of the pdf file book featured at this website - www.areasureyouaresaved.com