



unfoldingWord® Literal Text

v87

Philemon

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Philemon

1 ¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and our brother Timothy to Philemon, the beloved and our fellow worker, ² and to Apphia our sister, and to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house. ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I always thank my God, making mention of you in my prayers, ⁵ hearing of your love and the faith that you have in the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, ⁶ that the fellowship of your faith may become effective through the knowledge of everything good **that is** among us for Christ. ⁷ For I had much joy and comfort because of your love, because the inner parts of the saints are being refreshed by you, brother.

⁸ Therefore, having much boldness in Christ to command you the **thing that** is proper to **do**, ⁹ because of love I appeal to you instead—being such a one as Paul, an elder, and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰ I am appealing to you on behalf of my child Onesimus, whom I have fathered in my chains. ¹¹ The one formerly useless to you, but now useful both to you and to me, ¹² whom I have sent back to you—him—this one is my inner parts; ¹³ whom I desired to keep with me, so that he might serve me on behalf of you in the chains of the gospel. ¹⁴ But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that your good **deed** might not be as according to compulsion but according to good will. ¹⁵ For perhaps because of this he was separated from **you** for an hour, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶ no longer as a slave, but better than a slave—a beloved brother, especially to me, but much more so to you, in both the flesh and in the Lord. ¹⁷ Therefore, if you have me **as** a partner, receive him as me. ¹⁸ But if he has wronged you or owes **you** anything, charge that to me. ¹⁹ I, Paul, wrote this with my own hand. I myself will pay it back—in order not to say to you that you also owe me even your own self! ²⁰ Yes, brother, may I benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my inner parts in Christ.

²¹ Having become confident in your obedience, I wrote to you, having known that you will do even beyond what I am saying. ²² But at the same time, also prepare a guest room for me, for I hope that through your prayers I will be given back to you.

²³ Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you, ²⁴ Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, **and** Luke, my fellow workers.

²⁵ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ **be** with your spirit. Amen.