

## THE LETTER OF PAUL TO PHILEMON

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner for \*Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon, our beloved friend and fellow worker, <sup>2</sup> and also to †the beloved Apphia, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church that meets in your house: <sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my God, always making mention of you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup> because I hear of your love for all the saints and the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup> I pray that your fellowship with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every blessing that †we have in Christ §Jesus. <sup>7</sup> \*We are very thankful for the comfort we have received from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, brother.

<sup>8</sup> Therefore, although I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is right, <sup>9</sup> I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love. I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner for †Jesus

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\* **1:1** Christ Jesus [45.2%] | Jesus Christ PCK [54.5%] † **1:2** the beloved 93.4% | our sister CT 5.4% † **1:6** we [64.4%] | you PCK TR [34.7%] § **1:6** Jesus [96.6%] | — CT [2.1%] \* **1:7** We are very thankful for the comfort we have received 65.1% | We have received much joy and comfort SCR 4.8% | I have received much joy and comfort CT 4.1% † **1:9** Jesus Christ [91.9%] | Christ Jesus CT [6.1%]

Christ, <sup>10</sup> appeal to you on behalf of my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup> Once he was useless to you, but now he is useful both to you and to me. I am sending him †back, <sup>12</sup> §and I ask you to receive him, that is, my very own heart. <sup>13</sup> I wanted to keep him with me so that he could serve me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel. <sup>14</sup> But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that your good deed might not be done out of compulsion, but of your own free will. <sup>15</sup> Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for an hour was so that you might have him back forever, <sup>16</sup> no longer as a slave, but more than a slave, as a beloved brother, especially to me, but even more so to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup> So if you consider me to be a partner, receive him as you would receive me. <sup>18</sup> If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge it to me. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it (not to mention that you owe me your very own life). <sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, let me have some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in \*the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Trusting in your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask. <sup>22</sup> At the same time, I want you to prepare a

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† **1:11** back [93.1%] | back to you CT [0.7%] § **1:12** and I ask you to receive him, 91.6% | — CT 0.9% \* **1:20** the Lord 74.4% | Christ CT 20.3%

guest room for me, for I hope that through your prayers I will be restored to you soon.

<sup>23</sup> Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ †Jesus, <sup>24</sup> and Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers, greet you.

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

Written from Rome to Philemon and delivered by Onesimus, a servant.†

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† **1:23** Jesus, and Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers, greet you. [72.8%] | Jesus greets you, and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers. ANT CT [25.5%] ‡ **1:25** our [89.4%] | the NA SBL WH [6.7%] § **1:25** Christ [80%] | — PCK [15.9%] \* **1:25** Amen. [91.2%] | — NA SBL WH [2.3%] † **1:25** This scribal note is included in the colophons of many Greek manuscripts.

**Text-Critical English New Testament**  
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Note that in addition to the rules above, revising and adapting God's Word involves a great responsibility to be true to God's Word. See Revelation 22:18-19.

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