

Chapter 1

- 1 Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy our brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer,
- 2 And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house:
- 3 Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 4 I 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;
- 6 That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.
- 7 For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother.
- 8 Wherefore, 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.
- 10 I 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:
- 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.
- 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?
- 17 If thou count me therefore a partner, receive him as myself.
- 18 If he hath wronged thee, or oweth thee ought, put that on mine account;
- 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.
- 21 Having confidence in thy obedience I wrote unto thee, knowing that thou wilt also do more than I say.
- 22 But withal prepare me also a lodging: for I trust that through your prayers I shall be given unto you.
- 23 There salute thee Epaphras, my fellowprisoner in Christ Jesus;
- 24 Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellowlabourers.
- 25 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.