

A PARABLE OF THE GOSPEL

Philemon 1-25

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I. Introduction

- A. Philemon is a remarkable letter
- B. Frustrations with interpreting the message of Philemon
- C. Avoiding some false assumptions
- D. The situation

II. Exposition

- A. Paul prepares Philemon for an impossible request (1-7)
- B. The appeal/request (8-20)
- C. Closing (21-25)

III. Seeing the letter to Philemon as a parable of the gospel

- A. The historical level
- B. The logic of the gospel

IV. Conclusion