

"Colossians & Philemon"

~ Philemon 1:15-25 ~

"Guestrooms & Greetings!"



Philemon 15-22

¹⁵ Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back forever—

¹⁶ no longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a fellow man and as a brother in the Lord.

¹⁷ So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me.

¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will pay it back—not to mention that you owe me your very self.



Read by: Peter Butkowski

Philemon 15-22

²⁰ I do wish, brother, that I may have some benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹ Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

²² And one thing more: Prepare a guest room for me, because I hope to be restored to you in answer to your prayers.



Read by: Peter Butkowski

⁹ I appeal to you on the basis of love...

¹⁵⁻¹⁶ Receive him back not as a slave, but as a dear brother!

¹⁷ Welcome him as you would welcome me!

¹⁸ Assign his debts to me!



Colossians 3:11 - Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

Confident of your obedience...

⁹ I appeal to you on the basis of love...

¹⁵⁻¹⁶ Receive him back not as a slave, but as a dear brother!

¹⁷ Welcome him as you would welcome me!

¹⁸ Assign his debts to me!

Matthew 18:21-35 - Zac + the Unmerciful servant

John 13:13 - "Es this everyone will know!"

Colossians 3:11 - Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

+
²² ...one more thing!

Confident of your obedience...

In Philemon's response, Onesimus would move from slave to brother... to ambassador... serving as Philemon's loving representative at Paul's side!



+
²² ...one more thing!



23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends you greetings.

Recall from Colossians 1:21

Epaphrus was a spiritual leader devoted to prayer and responsible for bringing the gospel to Colossae

A resident of Colossae with "great zeal for the brethren in Laodicea and Hierapolis" (Col 4:12-13)...

...he has apparently come to Paul amidst his imprisonment. Perhaps Paul's letter was written in response to Epaphras' update on the church there, to expose and stop false teaching(s) and to encourage the church in their new Christian faith.

23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends you greetings.

24 And so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke, my fellow workers.

Colossians 4

10 My fellow prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, as does Mark, the cousin of Barnabas. (You have received instructions about him; if he comes to you, welcome him.) 11 Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends greetings. These are the only Jews¹⁰ among my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have proved a comfort to me. 12 Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured. 13 I vouch for him that he is working hard for you and for those at Laodicea and Hierapolis. 14 Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings. 15 Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house.

23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends you greetings.

24 And so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke, my fellow workers.

1 To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker—
2 also to Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier...

These are real people!

23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends you greetings.

24 And so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke, my fellow workers.

1 To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker—
2 also to Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier...

Relational!

Missional!



²⁵ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit!

A final greeting!

A prayer!

Oh Father, give him the grace...
the understanding... the wisdom...
the strength...
to **DO** it!

6 I pray that your **partnership** with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ.

²⁵ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit!

A final greeting!

I can do all things
through *Christ*
who strengthens me.

- Philippians 4:13

6 I pray that your **partnership** with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ.

