**PHILEMON**

I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds: (10)

**Introduction**

**General greeting to Philemon and his family (1-3)**

**Paul**, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy our brother, unto **Philemon** our **dearly beloved**, and **fellow laborer**,2And to our **beloved Apphia**, and **Archippus** our **fellow soldier**, and to the church in thy house:3**Grace to you**, and **peace**, from **God our Father** and the **Lord Jesus Christ**.

**Good reputation of Philemon (4-7)**

4**I thank my God**, making **mention of thee always in my prayers**,5Hearing of thy **love** and **faith**, which **thou hast toward the Lord Jesus**, and **toward all saints**;6That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

**Gracious plea for Onesimus (8-16)**

7For we have **great joy and consolation in thy love**, because the bowels of the **saints are refreshed by thee**, **brother**.8Wherefore, though I might be much bold in Christ to enjoin thee that which is convenient,9Yet 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**:11Which in **time past** was to thee **unprofitable**, but now **profitable to thee** and to **me**:12Whom **I have sent again**: thou therefore **receive him**, that is, **mine own bowels**:13Whom **I would have retained with me**, that in thy stead he might have ministered unto me in the bonds of the gospel:14But 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;16Not 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?**

**Guiltless substitutes for guilty (17)**

17If thou count me therefore a partner, **receive him as myself**.

**Glorious illustration of imputation (18)**

18If he hath wronged thee, or oweth thee ought, **put that on mine account**;

**General and personal items and requests (19-25)**

19I **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.20Yea, brother, let me have joy of thee in the Lord: refresh my bowels in the Lord. 21Having **confidence in thy obedience** I wrote unto thee, knowing that thou **wilt also do more than I say**.22But withal **prepare me also a lodging**: for **I trust that through your prayers I shall be given unto you**.23There **salute thee** Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus; 24Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellow laborers.25The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

**CONCLUSION**

**Salvation**

**Restitution**

**Obedience**