# SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

**"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." John 5:39**

# PHILEMON

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# THE BOOK OF PHILEMON

LESSONS FROM PHILEMON:

1. The Ministry of INTERCESSION (v. 10)

2. The Spirit of FORGIVENESS (v. 15-17)

3. The Life of a BELIEVER (v. 5-7)

4. The NEW PERSON Considered (v. 16)

5. The BARRIERS Are Broken Down (v. 16)
   See also Galatians 3:26-28

6. The Appeal of Paul is to Philemon's Heart (v. 15-17)

7. The LAW Must Be Upheld (v. 13-14)

8. The FAITH Paul Had in Philemon (v. 20-21)

9. The Personal Request to Philemon (v. 22)

## THE THREE MAIN CHARACTERS

**PAUL**:

PERSECUTOR OF THE CHURCH (Acts 8, Philippians 3:6)

RELIGIOUS: (Philippians 2:4-7)

CONVERTED: (Acts 9)

A PREACHER TEACHER APOSTLE: (II Timothy 1:11)

A VESSEL FOR GOD'S USE: (Acts 9:15-16)

AN UNMOVABLE SERVANT: (Acts 20:24)

**PHILEMON**:

MEMBER OF THE COLOSSIAN CHURCH: (v. 2)
See also Colossians 4:7-9

A SPIRITUAL BELIEVER: (v. 5-7)
(communication-sharing)

A FRIEND OF PAUL: (v. 1,) ("Philemon our dearly beloved and fellow laborer." v. 22)

A WEALTHY MAN: He was a slave owner and a Greek land owner.

A CONVERT OF PAUL'S: (v. 19, "…..how thou owest unto me even thine own self besides".)

**ONESIMUS**: (means "useful")

A SLAVE TO PHILEMON: (v. 16)

A ROBBER OF HIS OWNER: (v. 18)

A BELIVER IN CHRIST: (v. 10-16)

A DEVOTED BELIEVER: (Colossians 4:9)

THREE MEN FROM DIFFERENT WAYS OF LIFE AND SAVED BY GOD'S GRACE:

**PAUL**: Religious, zealous hater of Christ's church sinner-saint

**PHILEMON**: Wealthy, Greek sinner-saint

**ONESIMUS**: A slave to man, robber sinner-saint

"God is not a respector of man." "Whosoever may come."

**CHAPTER 1**

1. Why did Paul refer to himself as a prisoner?

2. How did Paul refer to Philemon?

3. Name those that Paul included in his greeting in verses 1 and 2.

4. What did Paul mean by "Archippus our fellow soldier" in verse 2? (Also see Colossians 4:17)

5. What is so significant about Paul's greeting of "Grace and peace" in verse 3? (Also see Ephesians 1:2)

6. How do Christians express their thankfulness for one another according to verse 4?

7. What two things had Paul heard about Philemon in verse 5?

8. In what areas was Philemon's love manifested in verse 8?

9. What was Paul's desire for Philemon and its outcome in verse 6?

10. How had Paul been affected by Philemon in verse 7?

11. How does one feel when refreshed?

12. What wise manner did Paul use in dealing with Philemon in verses 8 and 9?

13. In what twofold manner did Paul describe himself in verse 9?

14. Why could verse 10 be the key verse of this short book?

15. What does "whom I have begotten in my bonds" mean?

16. Describe what is meant by Onesimus being "unprofitable" and "profitable"?

17. How does Paul explain his feelings toward Onesimus in verse 12?

18. Why would Paul have kept Onesimus according to verse 13?

19. What is a key that Onesimus was saved in verse 13?

20. Why didn't Paul keep Onesimus with him? (v. 14)

21. How was Philemon to receive Onesimus and for how long? (v. 15-16)

22. Compare the "receives".

    Receive him _____. (v. 12)
    Receive him _____. (v. 15)
    Receive him _____. (v. 17)

23. On what was Paul basing his charge to Philemon in verse 17?

24. What do we gather about Onesimus from the first part of verse 18?

25. What does Paul mean by his words, "I have written it with my own hands" in verse 19?

26. What does Paul mean by the words, "Howbeit I do not say to thee how thou owest unto me even thine own self besides"?

27. What two things did Paul request of Philemon in verse 20?

28. What quality did Paul find in Philemon in verse 21?

29. What did Paul request of Philemon in verse 22?

30. In what was Paul trusting as part of his coming to Colosse in verse 22?

31. Find information about those whom Paul salutes.

    Epaphras

    Marcus

    Aristarchus

    Demas

    Lucas

32. Explain Paul's benediction in verse 25.

33. Write a short synopsis of Philemon.

Lessons learned from Philemon: