

~PHILEMON (115)
(Phi-le'mon) [Loving]

- **A Christian slave owner associated with the congregation at Colossae. His house in this city of southwestern Asia Minor served as a meeting place for the congregation there.**
- **Philemon** proved himself to be a source of refreshment to fellow Christians and an example in faith and love. The apostle Paul regarded him as a beloved fellow worker.
- **Paul, a prisoner for the sake of Christ Jesus, and Timothy, our brother, to **Philemon**, our beloved one and fellow worker. (**Philemon 1:1**)**
- **And to Apphia, our sister, and to Archippus, our fellow soldier, and to the congregation that is in your house. (**Philemon 1:2**)**
- **As I keep hearing of your love and faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the holy ones. (**Philemon 1:5**)**
- **In order, that the sharing of your faith may go into action by your acknowledging of every good thing among us as related to Christ. (**Philemon 1:6**)**
- **For I got much joy and comfort over your love, because the tender affections of the holy ones have been refreshed through you, brother. (**Philemon 1:7**)**
- **Along with Onesimus, my faithful and beloved brother, who is from among you. All the things here they will make known to you. (**Colossians 4:9**)**
- **I am exhorting you concerning my child, to whom I became a father while in my prison bonds, Onesimus. (**Philemon 1:10**)**
- **Formerly useless to you but now useful to you and to me. (**Philemon 1:11**)**
- **This very one I am sending back to you, yes, him, that is, my own tender affections. (**Philemon 1:12**)**

- Paul's desire to lodge with **Philemon** reflects favorably on this man's hospitality.
- But along with that, also get lodging ready for me, for I am hoping that through the prayers of you people I shall be set at liberty for you. (**Philemon 1:22**)
- And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira and a worshiper of God, was listening, and Yehowah opened her heart wide to pay attention to the things being spoken by Paul. (**Acts of Apostles 16:14**)
- Now when she and her household got baptized, she said with entreaty; If you men have judged me to be faithful to Yehowah, enter into my house and stay. And she just made us come. (**Acts of Apostles 16:15**)
- Apphia and Archippus seem to have been members of **Philemons** household, as they are also addressed in Paul's personal letter to **Philemon**. Apphia was perhaps **Philemons** wife, and Archippus may have been his son.
- And to Apphia, our sister, and to Archippus, our fellow soldier, and to the congregation that is in your house. (**Philemon 1:2**)
- It appears that **Philemon** became a Christian through Paul's efforts.
- I Paul am writing with my own hand. I will pay it back, not to be telling you that, besides, you owe me even yourself. (**Philemon 1:19**)
- However, since Paul had done no preaching in Colossae itself.
- For I want you to realize how great a struggle I am having in behalf of you and of those at Laodicea and of all those who have not seen my face in the flesh. (**Colossians 2:1**)
- **Philemon** may have become acquainted with Christianity as a result of the apostles two-year activity in Ephesus, when all those inhabiting the district of Asia, which embraced Colossae, heard the word of the Lord.
- This took place for two years, so that all those inhabiting the

district of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.
([Acts of Apostles 19:10](#))

- Sometime before receiving Paul's letter, **Philemon** had been deserted by his slave Onesimus. This runaway slave possibly even stole funds from his master to finance the voyage to Rome, where he later met Paul and became a Christian.
- I am exhorting you concerning my child, to whom I became a father while in my prison bonds, Onesimus. ([Philemon 1:10](#))
- Formerly useless to you but now useful to you and to me. ([Philemon 1:11](#))
- Moreover, if he did you any wrong or owes you anything, keep this charged to my account. ([Philemon 1:18](#))
- I Paul am writing with my own hand. I will pay it back, not to be telling you that, besides, you owe me even yourself. ([Philemon 1:19](#))

See Also SLAVE