

we might be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ^{3:8}This saying is faithful, and concerning these things I desire that you affirm confidently, so that those who have believed God may be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men; ^{3:9}but shun foolish questionings, genealogies, strife, and disputes about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain. ^{3:10}Avoid a factious man after a first and second warning; ^{3:11}knowing that such a one is perverted, and sins, being self-condemned.

^{3:12}When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicus, be diligent to come to me to Nicopolis, for I have determined to winter there. ^{3:13}Send Zenas, the lawyer, and Apollos on their journey speedily, that nothing may be lacking for them. ^{3:14}Let our people also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they may not be unfruitful.

^{3:15}All who are with me greet you. Greet those who love us in faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

Paul's Letter to Philemon

^{1:1}Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon, our beloved fellow worker, ^{1:2}to the beloved Apphia, to Archippus, our fellow soldier, and to the assembly in your house: ^{1:3}Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

^{1:4}I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers, ^{1:5}hearing of your love, and of the faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all the saints; ^{1:6}that the fellowship of your faith may become effective, in the knowledge of every good thing which is in us in Christ Jesus. ^{1:7}For we have much joy and comfort in your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, brother.

^{1:8}Therefore, though I have all boldness in Christ to command you that which is appropriate, ^{1:9}yet for love's sake I rather beg, being such a one as Paul, the aged, but also a prisoner of Jesus Christ. ^{1:10}I beg you for my child,

^a1:10 Onesimus means "useful."

whom I have become the father of in my chains, Onesimus,^a ^{1:11}who once was useless to you, but now is useful to you and to me. ^{1:12}I am sending him back. Therefore receive him, that is, my own heart, ^{1:13}whom I desired to keep with me, that on your behalf he might serve me in my chains for the Good News. ^{1:14}But I was willing to do nothing without your consent, that your goodness would not be as of necessity, but of free will. ^{1:15}For perhaps he was therefore separated from you for a while, that you would have him forever, ^{1:16}no longer as a slave, but more than a slave, a beloved brother, especially to me, but how much rather to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

^{1:17}If then you count me a partner, receive him as you would receive me. ^{1:18}But if he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, put that to my account. ^{1:19}I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it (not to mention to you that you owe to me even your own self besides). ^{1:20}Yes, brother, let me have joy from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in the Lord. ^{1:21}Having confidence in your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even beyond what I say.

^{1:22}Also, prepare a guest room for me, for I hope that through your prayers I will be restored to you.

^{1:23}Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you, ^{1:24}as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers. ^{1:25}The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.