

PHILEMON STUDY

CHAPTER 1:1-7

TAPE NUMBER SM-490 JUNE 1, 2003

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“WANNA BE APPRECIATED?”

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Fugitive, Sin, Slavery, Redemption, Brotherhood

INTRODUCTION

to the text

Philemon 1:1-7

The Letter of Philemon

Known as “The Personal Letter” and for good reason.

The book is a deeply private appeal by the Apostle Paul to an old Friend of his.

The Background

Philemon was a Slave owner, and a Christian.

He lived in the city of Colosse where there were many slaves and slave owners.

The Opportunity

A Fugitive Slaves was to be Crucified under Roman Law

But Philemon was Now a Christian – answering to a greater law!

The Appeal

The appeal is to let Christ Jesus rule and reign in our hearts to the greatest degree – Loving one another and Especially towards those who have sinned against us in this life.

But What About Using Onesimus as an Example?

This Book will do you much benefit,
if you look at it as a type.

Much like the book of Ruth where Boaz is a picture of Jesus Christ, and Ruth, a
gentile, lost in the land, a foreigner...

And so with this book;

Philemon is a type of the Law

Onesimus is the Fugitive Sinner on the Run

And Paul, a Type of Jesus Christ, interceding and reaching out to others

Application Here Jack

How Could Such a Big Sinner as "Onesimus" Ever be Forgiven?

He Had Robbed His Master

He Had Fled as Far as He Could Go

He Owed So Much Back?

The Book of Philemon is divided up into three sections.

The first section is that of;

- I. The Believer's Appreciation (1-7)***
 - II. The Believer's Appeal (8-16)***
 - III. The Believer's Assurance (17-25)***
- I. The Believer's Appreciation Expressed by Three Main Ways (1-7)***
 - a.) *Paul's Love, v.1-3*
 - b.) *Paul's Prayer, v.4-6*
 - c.) *Paul's Thanksgiving, v.7*

The Believer's Appreciation

Philemon 1:1-7

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved friend and fellow laborer, ² to the beloved Apphia, Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I thank my God, making mention of you always in my prayers, ⁵ hearing of your love and faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints, ⁶ that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. ⁷ For we have great joy and consolation in your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed by you, brother.

Notice with me the “Evolution” of the Believer

Philemon 1:10

***I appeal to you for my son Onesimus,
whom I have begotten while in my chains,***

Paul had been influenced by Steven and was converted to Christianity.

Paul's life influenced and ultimately affected Philemon.

Now Philmon's life is being challenged to be an influence to Onesimus

And back again, Paul had influenced Onesimus,

and Onesimus was converted to Christ.

2 Corinthians 3:18b

***...we are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory,
just as by the Spirit of the Lord.***

So Then This is a Fantastic Book for Us All

If There is any need of “Relationship Restoration”

- Confession and Forgiveness.

THE BELIEVER'S APPRECIATION

1.) Expressed In Love

vv.1-3

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved friend and fellow laborer, ² to the beloved Apphia, Archippus our fellow soldier, and to

*the church in your house: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ*

Appreciation Expressed In Love

1a.) A Love That We Are Bound To

Verse 1

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our beloved friend and fellow laborer,

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus



Prisoner *GRK 1198 desmios (des'-mee-os);*

One held in bonds, a prisoner in chains. Tied to another, howbeit a man, a belief, a way, a purpose.

Sir - Just The Facts Please!

Not the Apostle Paul. Not the Eminent Paul, Not Paul Your Holiness, Just Paul

*I am Coming You – Just Me
Assuming no authority, demanding no submission*

Why?

Paul wanted Philemon to act out of Love – not Force!

Things Last When Done In Love

Appreciation Expressed In Love

1b.) A Love That We Are Becoming

Verse 2

to the beloved Apphia, Archippus our **fellow soldier**,
and to the church in your house

The Wife, a Mother,
The Son a Pastor

And to the church in your house

The Early Church was Underground

LIKE DIAMONDS –
CHRISTIANS ARE MADE IN SECLUSION

Set Against a Dark Background – The World

Slaves in the Home?

Galatians 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Appreciation Expressed In Love

1c.) A Love That We Are Surrounded By

Verse 3

Grace to you and peace
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

“The Early Christian Greeting”

The Gentile Greeting = Grace “charis”
and the Jewish Greeting = Peace “shalom”

Romans 1:7

To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Almighty God is Offering You a Handout
The Father is Giving Out Grace and Peace to You
And The Lord Jesus Christ is Giving Out Grace and Peace to You

You're Surrounded!

THESE ARE OUR MARCHING ORDERS

GRACE AND PEACE TO YOU, AND YOU, AND YOU

 If the world were to see real Grace from us

 If the world were to see real Peace from us

THE BELIEVERS APPRECIATION

2.) *Expressed by Prayer*

vv. 4-6

I thank my God, making mention of you always in my prayers, ⁵ hearing of your love and faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints, ⁶ that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus

Appreciation Expressed by Prayer

2a.) *Praying At All Times for Others*

Verse 4

*I thank my God,
making mention of you always in my prayers*

This was Paul's Mode of Operation

Ephesians 1:16

***I do not cease to give thanks for you,
making mention of you in my prayers:***

What Does This Mean? –

It Means That Paul Never Stopped Talking to The Lord

He Walked Around Praying

Remember That as a Prisoner, He was Physically Limited to the Jail-house
But in the Spirit, He was Spiritually Liberated to Gods-house”

“That means he was thoughtful

about them as a people.”

***He took the time to pray for them
he got to know them
and he knew what God wanted for them***

Appreciation Expressed by Prayer

2b.) Praying God's Best for Others

Verse 5

*hearing of your love and faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus
and toward all the saints,*

Paul is not “battering” Philemon up Here -
But He Is Reminding Him of His Witness

Love and Faith

Cannot be divided

Real Faith Operates in Love

He Loved God – He Loved People

1 John 4:7-8

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

Appreciation Expressed by Prayer

2c.) Praying With Expectation for Others

Verse 6

*that the **sharing** of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you – in Christ Jesus*



Sharing

GRK 2842 koinonia (koy-nohn-ee'-ah);

participation, intercourse, distribution, fellowship.

THE THOUGHT IS; To see that other Christians have been added to your life by God to make your life better. Being one!

WANNA BE APPRECIATED?

The KJV - Philemon 1:6

That the communication of thy faith may become effectual..

The NIV - Philemon 1:6

I pray that you may be **active** in sharing your faith..

The TLB - Philemon 1:6
And I pray that as you **share** your faith with others it will
grip their lives too, as they see the

To Effectively Transmit the Gospel

Ephesians 3:8-9

*To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach (communicate, activate, share) among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,⁹ and to make all to see what is the fellowship (**intercourse, participation, distribution**) of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;*

THE BELIEVERS APPRECIATION

3.) Expressed Through Thanksgiving

For we have great joy and consolation in your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed by you, brother.

Appreciation Expressed Through Thanksgiving

3a.) Because of Joy

Verse 7

*For we have **great joy**...*

Because the Body was Being Blessed by Philemon...
Paul had Great Joy

PAUL WAS TRULY A PASTOR

THERE IS NO GREATER JOY THAN TO SEE A CHURCH GETTING ALONG AND GETTING ON WITH
WHAT GOD WANTS.

3 John 1:4

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

1 Corinthians 12:25-26

that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. ²⁶ And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

Appreciation Expressed Through Thanksgiving

3b.) Because of Comfort

Verse 7

...consolation in your love,

Comfort



consolation

GRK 3874 paraklesis (par-ak'-lay-sis);

para (alongside) klesis (comfort, ease, exhortation,

Ultimately

The Holy Spirit is Alongside You and Me

John 14:26 KJV

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost,

John 15:26 KJV

But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

John 16:7 KJV

Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

Appreciation Expressed Through Thanksgiving

3c.) Because of Jesus Living Through You

Verse 7

For we have great joy and consolation in your love,

WHY?

*because the hearts of the saints have been **refreshed by you**, brother*



Refreshed GRK 373 *anapano (an-ap-ow'-o)*;

to recreate. To become again, to be reenergized

Philippians 2:12-13

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

Love is the Answer – The Lord!

1 John 4:16-17

And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. ¹⁷ Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world.

Love is Not Weak – It's Costly

2 Corinthians 12:15

And I will very gladly spend and be spent for your souls; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I am loved.

Who Are You Today Friend?

Ending...