

HOW FAR WILL YOU GO...

1.) *For the Sake of Love*

vv. 8-11

By "Sake" I mean "For the Purpose"
Noah Webster, 1828 AD

For the Sake of Love

1a.) *We make a Bold Appeal*

Verse 8-9

*Therefore, though I might be **very bold** in Christ to **command** you what is fitting,⁹ yet for love's sake I rather **appeal** to you...*

In a very *Tenderhearted* way
Paul begins now to make his Appeal

Paul has All Parties in Mind
Philemon, Onesimus and The Lord Jesus Christ

Amos 3:3

Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?

**That is the Foundation of His Boldness -
The Love of God**

Verse 8-9a

*Therefore, though I might be **very bold** in Christ to **command** you what is fitting,⁹ yet for love's sake I rather **appeal** to you*

“Philemon - - Please Consider This.
I’m not Demanding, Not Pushing, Not Requiring You”

*For love's sake I rather “**Appeal**” to you*

So Paul Appeals to Philemon
And I Appeal to You

1 John 4:17

*Love has been made complete among us in this: that we may have **boldness** in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world.*

1 Timothy 3:13

*For those who have served well as servants obtain for themselves a good standing **and great boldness** in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

Verse 9b

-- Being such a one as **Paul**, the **aged**, and now also a **prisoner** of Jesus Christ

I’m a “Paul” - I’m an “Oldie” - I’m a “Prisoner”

A “Godly” Persuasion !

For the Sake of Love

1b.) We make a Reasonable Appeal

Verse 10-11

*I **appeal** to you for my son Onesimus, whom I have **begotten** while in my chains,¹¹ who once was unprofitable to you, but now is profitable to you and to me.*

“Whom I have Begotten while in my chains”

1 Corinthians 4:15-16

For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.

¹⁶ Therefore I urge you, imitate me.

Verse 11

*who once was unprofitable to you,
but now is profitable...*

The Truth is Philemon;

His name means “Profitable” but without Jesus Christ, he was Un-Profitable. Now that he’s a Christian – his name and his life are Profitable!

This Life at Best is a Bore! - Unprofitable

The Bible Says

“Without Christ we are dead while we still live”

1-Timothy 5:6

Turn in Your Bibles to

Matt 25:14-30

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. ¹⁵ And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. ¹⁶ Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. ¹⁷ And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. ¹⁸ But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. ¹⁹ After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.' ²¹ His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I

will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' ²² He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.' ²³ His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' ²⁴ "Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.' ²⁶ "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. ²⁷ So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. ²⁸ Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. ²⁹ 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰ And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Our "Reasonable" Appeal is

Lives Can Change. People Can Become New

*who once was unprofitable to you,
but now is profitable...*

Maybe You're Name is Judi (un) - Maybe You're Name is Mike (un) - Maybe You're Name is Elizabeth (un) - Maybe You're Name is John (un)

Revelation 3:12

"He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name.

Isaiah 62:2

The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, and all kings your glory. You shall be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD will name.

Why Shouldn't I

Tell you about the greatest, single most, wonderful Reason to Live?

**!!!!!! PEDIEE IN AUSTIN, TEXAS
BEFORE THAT GAY RALLY!!!!!!**

HOW FAR WILL YOU GO...

2.) For the Sake of Right

vv. 12-14

For the Sake of Right

2a.) There must be Reconciliation

Verse 12

*I am **sending** him back.*

*You therefore **receive** him, that is, my own heart*

The Colossian Reference:

Colossians 4:8-9

I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that he may know your circumstances and comfort your hearts, ⁹ with Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will make known to you all things which are happening here.

Onesimus is not dragging his heels here.
He is glad to be returning, glad to be doing the right thing!!!

“that is, my own heart”

**“Philemon, Onesimus will be carrying my Heart in His Hands,
Please don't let anything Happen to it”**

_____ Restoration Means _____
The Offender Returns and the Offended Forgives

The Ministry of Reconciliation

The Prodigal Son

There was a “Repentant Sinner” and the Father a Glad Forgiver

Repentance and Forgiveness
Is The Way This Church Family will Survive!

2 Corinthians 5:18-20

Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. ²⁰ Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

For the Sake of Right

2b.) There must be Acceptance

Verse 13

*whom I wished to keep with me,
that on **your behalf** he might minister to me in my chains for the gospel.*

Matthew 5:9

***Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called sons of God.***

Like Father, Like Son *and Daughter*

“Philemon,
Having Onesimus here, was like having you here
right alongside me...”

Brothers United in Ministry

For the Sake of Right

2c.) *There must be Willingness*

Verse 14

*But without your **consent** I wanted to do nothing,
that your good deed(s) might not be by **compulsion**, as it were, but **voluntary**.*

A word on love

HOW FAR WILL YOU GO...

3.) *For the Sake of God*

vv. 15-16

For God's Sake, or God's Purpose

For the Sake of God

3a.) *We need the Lord's Eyes*

Verse 15

*For **perhaps** he departed for a while for this purpose,
that you might receive him forever*

A word on life's events

How “God” Turns Things Out

Romans 8:28

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

3b.) We need the Lord’s Heart

Verse 16a

*no longer as a slave but more than a slave-- a beloved brother,
especially to me*

No Longer a Slave

“A Beloved Brother”

2 Corinthians 5:16-17 TLB

So stop evaluating Christians by what the world thinks about them or by what they seem to be like on the outside. Once I mistakenly thought of Christ that way, merely as a human being like myself. How differently I feel now! ¹⁷ When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun!

Seeing our brothers and sisters as Jesus’ children

3c.) We need the Lord’s Mind

Verse 16b

*...but how much more to you, both **in the** flesh
and **in the** Lord.*

Thinking about our brothers and sisters
as Jesus Thinks about them...

THE PERSONAL APPLICATION

redemption, reconciliation and restitution

Matthew 5:23-24

"Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴ "leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

Matthew 5:23-24 (Jack Translation)

If you're going to be religious and attend a church, and there be reminded that you know someone who is upset with you, ²⁴ when you leave church, get a hold of that person, make up with them, and then worship God freely – without distraction

What About Church, You and Jesus ?