

# PHILEMON STUDY

## CHAPTER 1:17-25

TAPE NUMBER SM-492    JUNE 13, 2003

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**“DO I HAVE A DEAL FOR YOU”**

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

***Fugitive, Sin, Slavery, Redemption, Brotherhood***

**INTRODUCTION**

***to the text***

***Philemon 1:17-25***

“Some Things Just Sound too Good to be True”

\_\_\_\_\_ I can only imagine \_\_\_\_\_

Being able to eat In and Out Double-Double Animal Style Burger.  
for Dinner, Wahoo Fish Taco’s with Mexican Black Beans and Ahi Rice  
And for the night cap – a Baskin Robbins Banana Split.  
And not gain one ounce of weight – in Fact

Get better looking – the more you eat!!!

---- I can only imagine ----

**SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE?**

Personally - I Have a Hard Time Believing in Something  
That Sounds to “Good to be True”

**Certainly**, one of the most difficult things about the **Christian** faith **is** that it sounds **too good to be true**.

### **For example,**

*We read and hear about The Almighty God Who has created us (we're not alone) The Lord who has loved us (with what we really need) and The God who has written to us a love letter that has withstood the sands of time (never pass away)*

### **For example,**

*We read and hear about The All-Knowing Savior Who knows everything about you (loves you anyway). Who cares so much about us that He refused to leave us in this lost world (we have eternity written in us)*

**That this God - would care and get involved in our lives and go so far as to rescue us...**

By coming to earth and being born like us, living like us, feeling like us, laughing like us – yes eating like us,

**But Suffering Beyond Anything that a Human Has Ever or Could Ever Know**

### **Because His Bible Says**

**2 Corinthians 5:21**

***For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.***

### **His Bible Says**

**2 Corinthians 5:19 NLT**

***For God was in Christ, restoring the world to himself, no longer counting men's sins against them but blotting them out. This is the wonderful message he has given us to tell others.***

## And again, His Bible Says

**John 3:16-18a**

***For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. <sup>18</sup> He who believes in Him is not condemned...***

### **It sounds too good to be true - - Right ?**

This is Just a Hint of His Goodness. Just the Tip of the Iceberg when we begin to consider what He has awaiting us...

**1 Corinthians 2:9**

***But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."***

### **Our Text Today**

**Philemon 1:17-25**

*If then you count me as a partner, receive him as you would me. <sup>18</sup> But if he has wronged you or owes anything, put that on my account. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, am writing with my own hand. I will repay-- not to mention to you that you owe me even your own self besides. <sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, let me have joy from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Having confidence in your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say. <sup>22</sup> But, meanwhile, also prepare a guest room for me, for I trust that through your prayers I shall be granted to you. <sup>23</sup> Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you, <sup>24</sup> as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow laborers. <sup>25</sup> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.*

## DO I HAVE A DEAL FOR YOU

### **1.) Paul's Assurance Among Partnerships vv. 17-19**

*If then you count me as a partner, receive him as you would me. <sup>18</sup> But if he has wronged you or owes anything, put that on my account. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, am writing with my own hand. I will repay-- not to mention to you that you owe me even your own self besides*

## Paul's Assurance Among Partnerships

### 1a.) This - Our Common Goal

#### Verse 17

*If then you count me as a partner, receive him as you would me*

**“We’re in This Ministry Together”**  
*is Paul’s approach*

The Gospel Advances One Person at a Time  
It Begins With Just One Person...

**The Value of One Soul  
Valuable!**

That’s what Onesimus is to Paul, to God and to  
Philemon!

**Preach to them all – all the time and everywhere.  
But Our Goal is to Receive People into the Kingdom of  
God.**

#### **Luke 14:15-24**

*Now when one of those who sat at the table with Him heard these things, he said to Him, "Blessed is he who shall eat bread in the kingdom of God!"<sup>16</sup> Then He said to him, "A certain man gave a great feast and invited many,<sup>17</sup> and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.'<sup>18</sup>*

*But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.'<sup>19</sup> And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.'<sup>20</sup> Still another said, 'I have married a wife, I can't come.'<sup>21</sup> So that servant came and reported these sayings to his master. Then the master of the*

house, being angry, said to his servant, '**Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.'**

<sup>22</sup> And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, **and still there is room.'** <sup>23</sup> Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and By-ways and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. <sup>24</sup> 'For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste of my feast.'"

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## **Please Come, Please Attend, Please Be with Us... There are times When Jesus will Come After You**

### **Luke 15:4-7**

"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. <sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' <sup>7</sup> I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.

### **Our Common Goal**

Is to reach the world – to reach you...

### **Our Common Goal**

Is to Bring With Us as Many Men and Woman,  
Boys and Girls to Heaven as We Can Time Permitting!

### *Paul's Assurance Among Partnerships*

#### **1b.) This - Our Common Ground**

#### **Verse 18-19a**

*But if he has wronged you or owes anything, put that on my account.*

<sup>19</sup> *I, Paul, am writing with my own hand. I will repay*

*if he has wronged  
or if he owes anything*

# This - the Spirit of Redemption

## Paul had a history with Philemon

Paul had been an Honorable man, a man of Integrity, Trustworthy

## He Had a Godly Witness

I will pay the debt when I arrive

(He is not asking Philemon to transfer the debt to an "I Owe You")

You and I Have a History with People

Have we Been Honorable men, Can they say He has Integrity,  
He's Trustworthy?

*"I will repay"*

He Owed Nothing / But He'll Pay the Debt

That's Jesus Kinda Talk

**John 10:11**

*"I am the good shepherd.*

*The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.*

**< Why Have to Give Your Life ? >**

## Why Did Jesus Have to Die?

**Romans 5:6-8**

*You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

*Philemon "He's my slave! I am his master, I own him!"*

### **Matthew 20:27-28**

*"And whoever desires to be first among you, let that person become your slave--<sup>28</sup>  
"just as Jesus Christ did not come to be served,  
but to serve others, and to give His life **a ransom** for others."*

**Ransom** GRK 3083 *lutron* (loo'-tron);

*To dissolve, to melt away, wiped out. To pay the demanded price*

### The "Ransom" Act

#### **Colossians 2:14**

*He Jesus Christ - having **wiped** out the handwriting of requirements (The Ten Commandments) that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it **out of the way**, having nailed it to the cross.*

### The "Ransom" Act Completed

#### **John 19:30**

*So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!"  
And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.*

### *Paul's Assurance Among Partnerships*

#### **1c.) This - Our Common Bond**

#### **Verse 19**

*...I will repay-- not to mention to you  
that you owe me even your own self besides*

### **Paul's Personal Appeal**

"I'm not going to bring up the fact that when I first met you, you were a slave to sin and in debt to Jesus Christ because of your sins. I won't mention the fact that I witnessed to you about Jesus Christ and His power to Pardon you, You responded by asking Christ to forgive you, and your sin-debt was taken away and you were given a new life."

**"I'm not even going to go there Philemon"**

But I will say that we are all in this life together and no one is getting out alive. There is only one way to survive this life and this world...

Turn to Jesus Christ – *but you already know that Philemon!*

## What we Must Owe One Another in This Life?

I Owe You an Example of Jesus' Love  
I Owe You an Example of Solomon's' Wisdom, Paul's Dedication,  
of Peter's Tenacity, of James' Prayer Life,

## What we Must Owe One Another

**Romans 13:8**

*Owe no one anything except to love one another,  
for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.*

***Paul's Assurance Among Partnerships - -Was Having  
A Common Goal / A Common Ground / A Common Bond***

# Give Em' Jesus!

## DO I HAVE A DEAL FOR YOU

**2.) Paul's Assurance within Relationships vv. 20-22**

*Paul's Assurance in Relationships*

**2a.) Godly relationships – a source of strength**

**Verse 20-21a**

**Verse 20-21a**

*Yes, brother, let me have joy from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Having (let me have) confidence in your obedience...*

# Give Em' Jesus !

*Paul's Assurance in Relationships*

## 2b.) Godly relationships – a well of generosity

### Verse 21b

*...I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say*

Paul is Stirring Up Philemon

*Hebrews 10:23-25*

*Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup> And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.*

Are you “Stirring Up” Others ?

329 anazopureo (an-ad-zo-poor-eh'-o);  
to re-ignite: to take embers and re start a fire

Blow Upon / Add To / Talk To /

# Give Em' Jesus !

*Paul's Assurance in Relationships*

## 2c.) Godly relationships – a place of restoration

### Verse 22

*But, meanwhile, also prepare a guest room for me,  
for I trust that through your prayers I shall be granted to you.*

Mark 10:29-30

*So Jesus answered and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's, 30 "who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time-- houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions-- and in the age to come, eternal life.*

# Give Em' Jesus !

## DO I HAVE A DEAL FOR YOU

### 3.) Paul's Assurance Expressed in Assistance vv. 23-25

*23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you, 24 as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow laborers. 25 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. - Amen.*

*Paul's Assurance Expressed by Assistance*

### 3a.) Assurance among Co-laborers

### Verse 23

*Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you,*

# ***A Gentile Christian***

## **Partners in Crime!**

### **Colossians 1:7**

*as you also learned from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf,*

*Paul's Assurance Expressed by Assistance*

### **3b.) Assurance through difficult times**

#### **Verse 24**

*...greet you, 24 as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, **my fellow laborers.***

## **Mixed Emotions Here**

### **Colossians 4:7-14**

*Tychicus, a beloved brother, faithful minister, and fellow servant in the Lord, will tell you all the news about me. <sup>8</sup> I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that he may know your circumstances and comfort your hearts, <sup>9</sup> with Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will make known to you all things which are happening here. <sup>10</sup> Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, with Mark the cousin of Barnabas (about whom you received instructions: if he comes to you, welcome him), <sup>11</sup> and Justus. **These are my only fellow workers for the kingdom of God** who are of the circumcision; they have proved to be a comfort to me. <sup>12</sup> Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God. <sup>13</sup> For I bear him witness that he has a great zeal for you, and those who are in Laodicea, and those in Hierapolis. <sup>14</sup> Luke the beloved physician and **Demas greet you.***

**Give Em' Jesus !**

# Assurance through difficult times

## 2 Timothy 4:7-12

*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup> Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing. <sup>9</sup> Be diligent to come to me quickly; <sup>10</sup> for **Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica--** Crescens for Galatia, Titus for Dalmatia. <sup>11</sup> Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry. <sup>12</sup> And Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus.*

*Paul's Assurance Expressed by Assistance*

## 3c.) Assurance confirmed in Christ

### Verse 25

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. - Amen*

**Dear Church**

**The Grace (favor) of our Lord Jesus Christ  
will be with your spirit**

**Things That Grace has to Say**

Grace – “I like to change people lives!”

Grace – I like to give people hope!

Grace – I like to Forget what you have repented of”

Grace – I like to be with you

**Grace Says Things Like**

## Hebrews 13:5b

*Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."*

**Jude 1:24 KJV**

*Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,*

**Matthew 28:19-20**

*Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."  
Amen.*

## THE PERSONAL APPLICATION

# Give Em' Jesus !

*Remember;*

*slaves made up the bulk of Rome's population.*

A slave had no rights, no voice, no ownership, no privileges

Once the Gospel made it out into the Roman Empire,  
Guess who naturally gravitated to the Gospel? – *The Slaves*

Because Christianity gives them **rights**

Because Christianity gives them **a voice**

Because Christianity gives them **ownership**

Because Christianity gives them **privilege**

Christianity took the Wealthy Feeman and the Poor Slave  
and Placed Them into the Same Spiritual Family, *forever!*

## ***O' Yes - Do I Have a Deal for You***

***For a Limited Time Only and While Supplies Last***

***The Deal***

***God's Great Exchange***

**For a Limited Time Only**  
**You have no guarantee that you'll see tomorrow**

**And while supplies last**  
**Time is Running**

## **Earlier I read a Passage of Scripture (I slipped it right past you – intentional)**

### **John 3:16-20**

*<sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world (you) that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes (clings to, relies upon, trusts in) Him should not perish but have everlasting life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. <sup>18</sup> He who believes in Him is not condemned...*

### **But Now Listen**

*...he who does not believe (~~clings to, relies upon, trusts in~~) is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. <sup>19</sup> And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.*