

Pauls ioye.

To Philemon.

His great loue.

good workes for necessaric vses that thei  
be not vnfruteful.

25 All that are with me, salute thee, Grete  
them that loue vs in the faith. Grace be  
with you all, Amen.

To Titus, elect the first bishope  
of the Church of the Cre-  
tians, written  
from  
Nicopolis in Macedonia.

## THE EPISTLE OF

Paul to Philemon.

THE ARGUMENT.

**A**lbeit the excellencie of Pauls spirit wonderfully appeareth in other his Epistles, yet this E-  
pistle is a great witnes, and a declaration of the same. For surer passing the busines of his mat-  
ter, he sleeth as it were vp to heauen, and speaketh with a diuine grace and maiestie. Onesimus ser-  
uant to Philemon had he robbed his master, and fled away, whome Paul hauing wonne to Christ sent  
again to his master, earnestly begging his pardone, with moste waightie arguments prouing the  
duetie of one Christian to another, & so with salutations endeth.

1 He reioyceth to heare of the faith and loue of Philemon,  
2 Whome he desireth to forgive his seruant Onesimus,  
and louingly to receiue him againe.

**P**aul a prisoner of Iesus  
Christ, and our brother  
Timotheus, vnto Phi-  
lemon our dere friend,  
& fellow helper,  
And to our dere sister  
Apphia, and to Archip-  
pus our felowe souldier, & to the Church  
that is in thine house:

1. The. 1. 2  
2 the. 1. 2.

3 Grace be with you, and peace from God  
our Father, & from the Lord Iesus Christ.  
4 I giue thanks to my God, making men-  
tion alwaies of thee in my praiers,  
5 (When I heare of thy loue & faith, which  
thou hast towarde the Lord Iesus, & tow-  
arde all Saintes)

a Thy beneuo-  
lence toward  
the Saintes, w  
procedeth of a  
liuelie and ef-  
fectual faith.  
b That experi-  
ence may de-  
clare y<sup>e</sup> you are  
the members of  
Iesus Christ.  
c Meaning their  
lawarde par-  
tes & affections  
were through  
his charitie  
comforted.

6 That the<sup>a</sup> fellowship of thy faith may be  
made fruteful, and that whatsoeuer good  
thig is in you<sup>b</sup> through Christ Iesus, may  
be knowne.

7 For we haue great ioye and consolacion  
in thy loue, because by thee, brother, the  
Saintes<sup>c</sup> hearts are comforted.

8 Wherefore, thogh I be verie bolde in  
Christ to commande thee that which is  
conuenient,

9 Yet for loues sake I rather beseeche thee,  
thogh I be as I am, euen Paul aged, and  
euen now a prisoner for Iesus Christ.

Colos. 4. 9.

10 I beseeche thee for my sonne<sup>a</sup> Onesimus,  
whome I haue begotten in my bondes,  
11 Which in time past was to thee vnpro-  
fitable, but now profitable bothe to thee  
and to me,

12 Whome I haue sent againe: thou there-  
fore receiue him, y<sup>e</sup> is mine owne bowels,

13 Whome I wolde haue reteneid with me,  
that in thy stede he might haue ministred  
vnto me in the bondes of the Gospel.

14 But without thy minde wolde I do no-  
thing, that thy benefite shulde not be as it  
were of necessitie, but willingly.

15 It may be that he therefore<sup>d</sup> departed  
for a ceason, that thou shuldest receiue him  
for euer,

d He fled away  
from thee.

16 e Not now as a seruant, but aboue a ser-  
uant, euen as a brother beloued, specially  
to me: how muche more then vnto thee,  
bothe in the flesh, and in the Lord?

e For he is thy  
seruant by co-  
dicion, & also  
now y<sup>e</sup> Lorde  
to y<sup>e</sup> bothe for  
thine owne sa-  
ke and for the  
Lords y<sup>e</sup> ought-  
test to iou-  
ce him.

17 If therefore thou counte our things  
commune, receiue him as my self.

18 If he hath hurt thee, or oweth thee  
ought, that put on mine accountes.

f That all thin-  
g is mine, &  
all mine is  
thine.

19 I Paul haue written this with mine owne  
hand: I wil recompense it, albeit I do not  
say to thee, that thou owest vnto me euen  
thine owne self.

20 Yea, brother, let me obtaine this pleasu-  
re of thee in the Lord: cōferte my<sup>g</sup> bow-  
els in the Lord.

g Grant me  
this benefite,  
w<sup>e</sup> shalbe mo-  
re acceptable  
vnto me of all  
others.

21 Trusting in thine obedience, I wrote vn-  
to thee, knowing that thou wilt do euen  
more then I say.

22 Moreouer also prepare me lodging: for  
I trust through your praiers I shalbe gi-  
uen vnto you.

23 There salute thee Epaphras my fellowe  
prisoner<sup>h</sup> in Christ Iesus,

h That is, for  
Christis cause.

24 Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas & Luke,  
my fellowe helpers.

25 The grace of our Lord Iesus Christ be  
with your spirit, Amen.

Written from Rome to Philemon,  
and sent by Onesimus a  
seruant.

THE