PHILEMON

"CHRISTIAN FORGIVENESS"

"If then you regard me a partner, accept him as you would me. {18} But if he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything charge that to my account." Philemon 1:17-18

Prepared by James T. Bartsch March, 2008 Updated October, 2013

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A1 THE INTRODUCTION 1-7

A2 THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF PHILEMON TO RECEIVE ONESIMUS 8-20

A3 THE CONCLUSION 21-25

Major Divisions of Philemon Based on the <u>ANALYSIS OF PHILEMON</u> Prepared by James T. Bartsch March, 2008 Updated October, 2013

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A1 THE INTRODUCTION 1-7

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Condensed Outline of Philemon Based on the ANALYSIS OF PHILEMON Prepared by James T. Bartsch March, 2008 Updated October, 2013

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A1 <u>THE INTRODUCTION</u> 1-7

B1 The Salutation 1-3

- C1 The authors 1
- C2 The recipients 1-2
- C3 The blessing 3

B2 The Grateful Prayer 4-7

- C1 Paul's persistent thanking of his God 4
- C2 Paul's persistent mentioning of Philemon in his prayers 4-6
- C3 Paul's receipt of much joy and comfort 7

A2 <u>THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF PHILEMON TO RECEIVE ONESIMUS</u> 8-20

B1 Paul's Tact in Approaching Philemon 8-9

- C1 His acknowledgment that he could legitimately, because of his Apostolic position in Christ, boldly **order** Philemon to act appropriately 8
- C2 His decision rather to **urge** Philemon to act on the basis of love 9a
- C3 His portrayal of himself 9b
 - D1 Instead of as an apostle, rather as
 - D2 Paul the aged
 - D3 Paul the prisoner of Messiah Jesus

B2 Paul's Perception of Onesimus 10-11

- C1 As being his spiritual child, whom he fathered while imprisoned 10
- C2 As being formerly useless to Philemon 11
- C3 As being now useful

B3 Paul's Desire to Put Onesimus to Work in the Ministry 12-14

- C1 His having sent Onesimus back to Philemon despite his emotional attachment to the slave 12
- C2 His prior resolve to keep Onesimus 13
- C3 His reluctance to act without Philemon's consent 14

B4 Paul's Plea to Philemon to Receive Onesimus 15-17

- C1 His view: that perhaps Onesimus had left Philemon for a brief time in order that Philemon might receive him back eternally! 15
- C2 His hope: that Philemon will receive Onesimus 16
- C3 His leverage 17

B5 Paul's Willingness to Stand Any Financial Loss on Onesimus' Behalf 18-20

- C1 His instruction to Philemon to put anything Onesimus owes on his (Paul's) account 18
- C2 His pledge in his own writing to pay 19a
- C3 His pressure on Philemon to be supportive 19b-20

A3 <u>THE CONCLUSION</u> 21-25

B1 The Purpose of the Letter 21-22

- C1 To secure obedience 21
- C2 To request preparation for lodging 22

B2 Greetings to Philemon 23-24

- C1 From Epaphras Paul's fellow prisoner in Christ 23
- C2 From Paul's fellow workers 24

B3 Blessing 25

"May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit."

Outline of Philemon, by James T. Bartsch, WordExplain.com

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