



# THE TESTIMONY OF PHILEMON

Philemon vv. 1-25

# Introduction



<http://surburg.blogspot.com/2018/02/commemoration-of-philemon-and-onesimus.html>

# Introduction



<https://www.warhistoryonline.com/instant-articles/chattel-slavery-ancient-greece-rome.html>

# Paul's Plea to Philemon (vv. 4-7)

Now <sup>4</sup> I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers,

<sup>5</sup> because I hear about your **love** for all his holy people and your **faith** in the Lord Jesus.

<sup>6</sup> I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ.

<sup>7</sup> Your **love** has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have **refreshed** the hearts of the Lord's people.

# Paul's Plea to Philemon (vv. 8, 9)

<sup>8</sup> Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do,

<sup>9</sup> yet I prefer to appeal to you on the basis of **love**. It is as none other than Paul—an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus—

# Paul's Plea to Philemon (vv. 10, 11)

<sup>10</sup> that I appeal to you for my son **Onesimus**, who became my son while I was in chains.

<sup>11</sup> Formerly he was **useless** to you, but now he has become **useful** both to you and to me.

# Paul's Plea to Philemon (vv. 12-14)

<sup>12</sup> I am sending him—who is my very **heart**—back to you.

<sup>13</sup> I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel.

<sup>14</sup> But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favor you do would not seem forced but would be voluntary.

# Paul's Plea to Philemon (vv. 15, 16)

<sup>15</sup> Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back forever—

<sup>16</sup> **no longer as a slave, but** better than a slave, **as a dear brother**. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a fellow man and as a brother in the Lord.



# Paul's Plea to Philemon (vv. 17-19)

<sup>17</sup> So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me.

<sup>18</sup> If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, **charge it to me**.

<sup>19</sup> I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will pay it back—not to mention that you owe me your very self.

# Paul's Plea to Philemon (vv. 20, 21)

<sup>20</sup> I do wish, brother, that I may have some **benefit** from you in the Lord; **refresh** my heart in Christ.

<sup>21</sup> Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

# Paul's Plea to Philemon (v. 22)

<sup>22</sup> And one thing more: Prepare a guest room for me, because I hope to be restored to you in answer to your prayers.

# Paul's Plea to Philemon (vv. 23-25)

<sup>23</sup> Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends you greetings.

<sup>24</sup> And so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke, my fellow workers.

<sup>25</sup> The **grace** of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

# Three Transformed Lives

## Paul



<https://www.britannica.com/topic/biblical-literature/The-Letter-of-Paul-to-Philemon>

# Three Transformed Lives

## Philemon



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Philemon\\_and\\_Onesimus.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Philemon_and_Onesimus.jpg)

- **Colossians 3:11** Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.
- **Galatians 3:28** There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, **nor is there male and female**, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

# Three Transformed Lives

## Philemon



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Philemon\\_and\\_Onesimus.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Philemon_and_Onesimus.jpg)



# Three Transformed Lives

## Onesimus

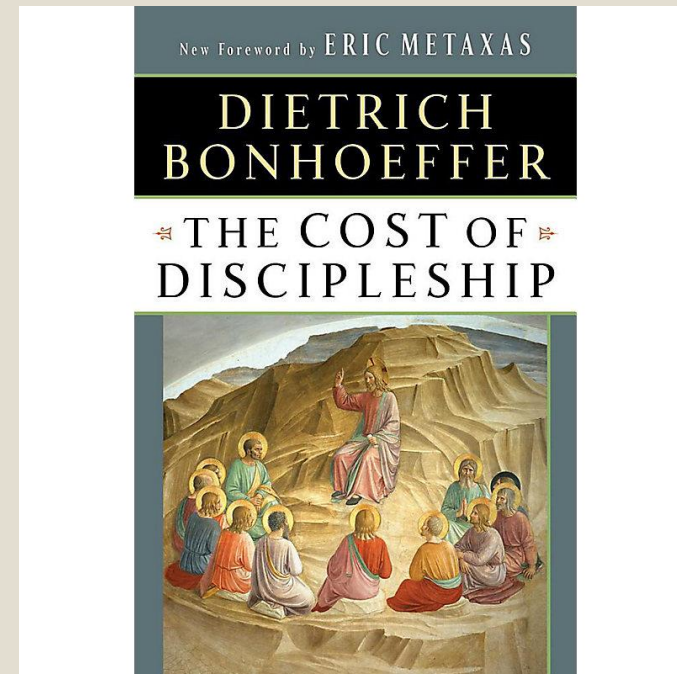


<https://cassmancatechism.com/tag/st-onesimus/>

“Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline. Communion without confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate.”



<https://www.christianitytoday.com/history/people/martyrs/dietrich-bonhoeffer.html>



<https://s7d9.scene7.com/is/image/LifeWayChristianResources/9780684815008?FigureLarge>



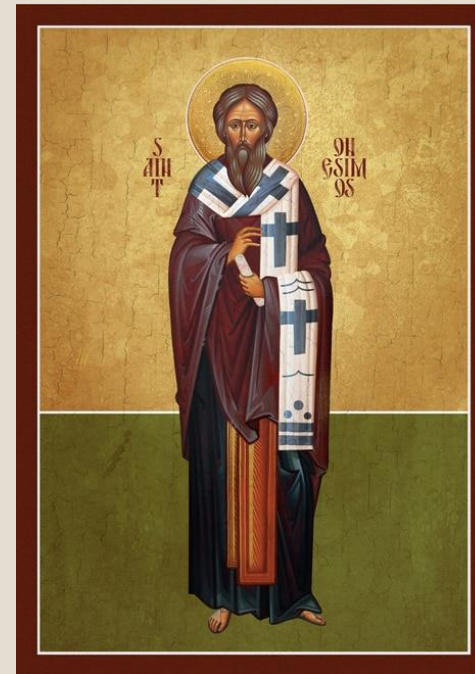
# Conclusion

The Power of the Gospel and the Holy Spirit



<https://www.swordofthespirit.net/bulwark/june2015p12.htm>

Saint Onesimus



Wilberforce Antislavery Bill  
(Scene from the movie,  
"Amazing Grace")



<https://www.pressreader.com/canada/toronto-star/20070325/282299610716713>

<https://www.uncutmountainsupply.com/icons/of-saints/by-name/n-o/icon-of-saint-onesimus-1on15/>

