

OUTLINE OF PHILEMON

1A PAUL'S PRAISE OF PHILEMON chap 1:1-7

1B The people addressed chap 1:1-2

1C The beloved Philemon and Apphia

2C Archippus, Paul's fellow soldier

3C The church in their house

2B The prayer offered chap 1:3

3B The commendation given chap 1:4-7

1C He had love for the saints chap 1:4-5a

2C He had faith in the Lord Jesus chap 1:5b

3C He practiced spiritual fellowship chap 1:6

4C He refreshed the saints chap 1:7

2A PAUL'S PLEA FOR ONESIMUS chap 1:8-17

1B The argument from love chap 1:8-9

1C Paul does not impose his authority chap 1:8

2C Paul appeals to Philemon's love chap 1:9

2B The argument from conversion chap 1:10-17

1C Onesimus has been born again chap 1:10

2C Onesimus has been transformed chap 1:11-17

1D He has faithfully served Paul chap 1:11-14

2D He is a brother beloved in the Lord chap 1:15-17

3A PAUL'S PLEDGE AND ASSURANCE chap 1:18-25

1B Paul will pay any debt Onesimus owes to Philemon chap 1:18-19a

2B Paul reminds Philemon of the debt he owes Paul chap 1:19b

3B Paul is confident in Philemon's compliance with his plea chap 1:20-25

THEME: Christians need to remember the example of Christ, and their obligations to one another, and reconcile with each other when offenses have occurred.

Key verse: Philemon 1:15 For perhaps he therefore departed for a season, that thou shouldest receive him for ever; 16 Not now as a servant, but above a servant, a brother beloved, specially to me, but how much more unto thee, both in the flesh, and in the Lord?