

ENHANCED PARTICIPATION IN THE FAITH

Philemon 1:8–16

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Grace Chapel

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Introduction:

Review:

1. Paul wishes grace and peace from the Father and Christ to the household of a beloved fellow-worker, Philemon, and to the [Colossian] church in his home (1:1–3).
2. [Paul thankfully prays for his loving & faithful friend to gain a greater recognition of Christ’s work in His body to energize him] because he is thankful that Philemon already refreshes believers (1:4–7)

[Paul appeals to Philemon], despite having authority to command him to do what is best (1:8)

Paul’s authority

What is best

[Based on his prayer for Philemon to gain a greater recognition of Christ’s work in His body] Paul appeals to Philemon for Onesimus because of love and because he is now an aged prisoner (1:9–10)

Paul appeals to Philemon, rather than commanding him

Difference between *presbutēs* and *presbeutēs*

Presbeutēs means _____ (This is the word in the text).

Presbutēs means _____ or is an alternate spelling for _____

The argument from context:

Paul’s emphasis on Onesimus

¹⁰I appeal to you for

**my son
Onesimus,**

¹¹

**whom
who
[who]**

I have begotten *while* in my chains, once was unprofitable to you, but now is profitable to you and to me.

¹²I am sending

**him
him,
whom**

that is, my own heart, I wished to keep with me, might minister to me in my chains for the gospel.

back. You therefore receive

¹³

that on your behalf

he

¹⁴But without your consent I wanted to do nothing, that your good deed might not be by compulsion, as it were, but voluntary.

¹⁵For perhaps that you might receive

**he
him
a beloved
brother,**

departed for a while for this *purpose*, forever, especially to me

¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave—

but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

[Paul appeals for] the once useless Onesimus, who is now profitable to Philemon and Paul (1:11)

Meaning of the name *Onesimus*

Paul is returning Onesimus, so for Philemon to receive him is Paul's desire, although his first thought was to keep Onesimus for ministry (1:12–13)

[Although Paul would have preferred to keep Onesimus] he did not want Philemon's good deed to be forced, but to be voluntary (1:14)

Why?

2 Corinthians ____:_____

[In explanation of Paul's desire to avoid compelling Philemon, Paul suggests that Onesimus' temporary departure may have been for the purpose that Philemon would receive him as more than a slave—as a brother beloved to Philemon and to Paul (1:15–16)

Conclusion: Viewing the passage from different standpoints

Standpoint 1:

Standpoint 2:

Standpoint 3:

Application