

PHILEMON

INTRODUCTION: A study of the book of Acts 20-28 indicates this book was written from Rome by the apostle Paul about 62 AD.

1. What was Paul's personal situation at that time? (Phil. 1:1;9; Acts 28:16, 30-31)
2. To whom was the book written.
3. What two blessings did Paul call on Philemon and from which two persons?
4. What was Paul's practice toward Philemon regularly (1-4; I Thess. 5:17; Eph. 6:18)?
5. Paul commended Philemon because of his love and faith toward whom?
6. Paul indicated that the communication or sharing by Philemon of his faith would "become (more) effective" because of what?
7. In acknowledging the good things in the life of Philemon how did Paul express his feelings? (v. 7)
8. What authority did Paul possess so that he could rightly say, "I might be very bold in Christ to command"? (II Cor. 13:10; Luke 22:30; Acts 2:42; John 16:13; Matt. 10:19-20; 16:19; 18:18)
9. Why did Paul restrain his power to command?
10. Why was Paul making his appeal to Philemon?
11. What did Paul mean he had "begotten (Onesimus) while in chains" (I Cor. 4:15; I Pet. 1:22-25).
12. Why could Paul say Onesimus would now be profitable to himself and to Philemon?
13. Why is Paul's reference to the fact that Philemon's service be voluntary so important to the body of believers (Psalm 110:3; II Cor. 9:6-7; Rev. 22:17)?
14. How could it be that Philemon could receive Onesimus forever? (Gal. 3:26-29; Titus 1:2).
15. Discuss Philemon receiving back this slave as a beloved brother (Matt. 23:8).
16. How could Philemon receive Onesimus as he would Paul (cf. Matt. 10:40-41)?

17. How could Paul say to Philemon that “you owe me even your own self (cf. Rom. 15:27)?
18. Philemon’s acceptance of Onesimus as a brother would do what for Paul?
19. Discuss Paul’s confidence in Philemon (cf. Philippians. 2:12).
20. Although a prisoner it was Paul’s trust that through what would he be released to see Philemon (cf. Eph. 6:18; Phil. 1:4; I Thess. 5:25; II Thess. 3:1)?
21. Tell who was Paul’s fellow prisoner and tell some things about him (Col. 1:7; 4:12).
22. Name four other brothers that also sent their greetings to Philemon.
23. What is the beautiful ending by Paul to Philemon?