

# PHILEMON

## AT-A-GLANCE



N.T. BOOK #18



AUTHOR: APOSTLE PAUL



WRITTEN: 60-62 AD

Old Testament: 39 Books

New Testament: 27 Books

18

**CLAIMS TO FAME:** Written about a slave with encouragement to treat all equally

### PROBLEMS OR ISSUES THIS BOOK IS ADDRESSING:

- The book was written so that a slave would be accepted as a beloved brother among Christians, and Paul wanted to encourage Christians to not think in snobbish terms.

### MOST FAMOUS VERSES:

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. **Philemon 1:16**

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. **Philemon 1:6**

## Important Points about the Book:

- In this letter Paul has found a slave, whom he is returning to Philemon, his owner. Paul asks Philemon to forgive the slave and return him to Paul because Paul has found him useful in preaching the gospel.
- Paul's message is that even though slavery was an accepted part of Roman society, we should treat each other as equals, like he encouraged Philemon to treat his slave as a brother.

Welcome to the Book of Philemon, a postcard from Paul that packs a powerful message about forgiveness, reconciliation, and the transformative love of Christ. Written by the Apostle Paul around 60–62 AD while he was under house arrest in Rome, this personal letter is addressed to Philemon, a wealthy Christian in Colossae, and concerns Onesimus, a runaway slave. In just 25 verses, Philemon challenges us to see others through the lens of God's grace and to live out the gospel in our relationships.

### **February 1, 2026 – (Philemon 1:1-7)**

**Theme:** Thankfulness for the faithful ministry and love of believers.

- **Monday:** Colossians 1 – Paul's gratitude for the Colossian church's faith.
- **Tuesday:** 1 Thessalonians 1 – Thanking God for faithful believers.
- **Wednesday:** Psalm 100 – A call to give thanks for God's goodness.
- **Thursday:** Acts 4 – The early church's bold service and prayer.
- **Friday:** Romans 1 – Paul's longing to encourage faithful believers.

### **February 8, 2026 – (Philemon 1:8-16)**

**Theme:** Restoring relationships through Christ's transformative grace.

- **Monday:** Genesis 33 – Jacob and Esau's reconciliation.
- **Tuesday:** Matthew 18 – Jesus' teaching on forgiveness and reconciliation.
- **Wednesday:** 2 Corinthians 5 – The ministry of reconciliation through Christ.
- **Thursday:** Psalm 133 – The blessing of unity among brothers.
- **Friday:** Luke 15 – The joy of restoration in the parable of the prodigal son.

### **February 15, 2026 – (Philemon 1:17-25)**

**Theme:** Unity and mutual support in the body of Christ through hospitality.

- **Monday:** Romans 15 – Welcoming one another for God's glory.
- **Tuesday:** Hebrews 13 – Hospitality as a mark of Christian love (repeated from Jude series but distinct context).
- **Wednesday:** Acts 2 – The early church's fellowship and generosity.
- **Thursday:** 1 Peter 4 – Using gifts to serve and show hospitality.
- **Friday:** Psalm 84 – The joy of dwelling in God's presence with His people.