

Paul's letter to Philemon

BACKGROUND:

PURPOSE:

THEME: *Christian Love* – v.5-7, 9

KEY VERSE: v.17-18

OUTLINE:

1st ... Paul's GREETING – v.1-3

2nd ... Paul's PRAISE of Philemon – v.4-7

3rd ... Paul's PLEA for Onesimus – v.8-16, 20-22

4th ... Paul's PROMISE to Philemon – v.17-19

5th ... Paul's FAREWELL – v.23-25



LESSONS: from Philemon...

#1 – The Lesson of True Discipleship – Luke 14:25-33

Booker T. Washington – ‘He who lives for himself alone, sows to himself, makes his own comfort, his own gain the first and last consideration, will not reap happiness, but wretchedness and uneasiness instead. On the other hand one who gives himself to others, bears their burdens, reaps a reward in the form of happiness that is beyond the comprehension of the selfish.’ – *Papers*, (Vol. 3, April 1891, pp.144-145)

#2 – The Lesson of Christian Love – Christian love compels us to:

v.4 ... **Pray for others**

v.5-6 ... **Share our faith with others**

v.7 ... **Refresh the hearts of God's people**

v.10-19 ... **Seek the welfare of others**

v.21 ... **Believe the best (not the worst) about others –**

#3 – The Lesson of Salvation –

1st – The truth of Substitution (v.17)

2nd – The truth of Imputation (v.18)

#4 – The Lesson of Biblical Social Change –