THE EPISTLE TO PHILEMON.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE EPISTLE AS A WHOLE.

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A | A | 1, 2. EPISTOLARY SALUTATIONS.
B | 3. BENEDICTION.

B | C | 4-6. PAUL'S PRAYER FOR PHILEMON.
D | a | 7-8. PAUL'S JOY IN PHILEMON: CONFERRED.
b | 7-8. BOWELS OF SAINTS REFRESHED.
G | 8. I MIGHT ENJOIN (BUT I DO NOT).

H | 9. PAUL THE AGED.

J | 10, 11. ONESIMUS PROFITABLE (ONESIMOS) TO THEE AND ME.
d | 12. RECEIVE HIM AS MYSELF.

K | 13. ONESIMUS MINISTERED IN THY STEAD.

L | 14. THY BENEFIT.

C | J | c | 15, 16. BELOVED TO ME AND THEE.
d | 17. RECEIVE HIM AS MYSELF.

H | 18, 19-. PAUL THE DEBTOR.


B | D | a | 20-. PAUL'S JOY IN PHILEMON: BESought.
b | 20. "REFRESH MY BOWELS."

C | 21, 22. PHILEMON'S PRAYER FOR PAUL.

A | A | 23, 24. EPISTOLARY.
B | 25. BENEDICTION

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NOTES ON THE EPISTLE TO PHILEMON.

1. All that we know of Philemon is to be gathered from the Epistle bearing his name. He seems to have been a believer at Colossae, form the references to certain in the church there (see Notes below), and must have been possessed of means (v. 22). Paul's words indicate that he held his friend in high esteem.

2. Onesimus is the Latinized form of the Greek Onēsimos, which means "useful", or "profitable". He was a slave (v. 16), and, fleeing from his master, found his way to Rome, where he was, under Paul, led to become the Lord's servant, and "called being a servant (slave)", he cared not for it, but was willing to return to his master's service, whether to continue as slave or as "brother beloved" (v. 19). Paul sends the letter by Onesimus.

3. From Col. 4, 9. we learn that Paul had sent unto the church at Colossae Tychoicus "with Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you". For other references, see Notes.

4. The Epistle was written during Paul's first imprisonment at Rome, probably in A.D. 62. In no one of his Epistles is more clearly shown the great heart of the apostle in his care for every member of the church. See 2 Cor. 11. 28, 29.
THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO
PHILEMON.

A 1 Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy our brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, fellowlabourer, 2 And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house:

B 3 Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

C 4 I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, 5 Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints; 6 That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledgement of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

D a For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, b because the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, 1 brother.

E G 8 Wherefore, though I might be much bold in Christ to enjoin thee that which is convenient, 9 Yet for love's sake I rather beseech thee, being such an one as Paul the aged, and now also another prisoner of Jesus Christ.

J c 10 I beseech thee therefore, for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds, 11 Which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me:

K 12 Whom I have sent again; that thou received him, that is, mine own bowels:

K 13 Whom I would have retained with me, that in thy stead he might have ministered unto me in the bonds of the gospel:

K 14 But without thy mind would I do nothing; that thy benefit should not be as it were of necessity, but of willing.

C Jo 15 For perhaps he therefore departed for a season, that thou shouldest receive him for ever;

Apphia. Tradition says she was the wife of Philemon.
Archippus. See Col. 4, 17.
fellowsoldier. Only here and Phil. 2, 28, which see.
4 thank. Gr. eucharisteo. See Acts 27, 35.
1 Thess. 1, 2.
saints = the saints. See Acts 9, 13.
That. Supply the ellipsis by "(Praying) that",
communication = fellowship. Gr. koimia. See Acts 2, 42.
you. The texts read "us".
Christ. Ap. 98, IX.
Jesus. The texts omit.
we have. The texts read "I had"
consolation. See Acts 4, 36.
bowels. See 2 Cor. 6, 12.
are = have been.
refreshed. See 1 Cor. 16. 18.
3 though. . . bold. Lit. having much boldness.
enjoin = command. Gr. eipasa. convenient.
Elsewhere, Luke 1, 8, also, &c. = a prisoner also.
have begotten = begat. Cp. Phil. 1, 12, 13. 11 un-
Fig. Meiosis. Ap. 6, profitable. Gr. eucharisteo. See
Fig. Synecdoche. Ap. 104, xvii. 1.
the.
nothing. Gr. ouden. thy benefit. Lit. the good thing of thee. not.
if. It were. Omit. of. Ap. 104, x. 2.
15 perhaps. Gr. tachos. Only here and Rom. 5, 7.
therefore = because of. (Ap. 104, v. 2) this. departed = was separated. Gr. choris.
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PHILEMON.

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?

17 If thou count me therefore a partner, receive him as myself.

18 Hath wronged thee, or oweth thee, put that on mine account; Paul have written it with mine own hand, I will repay it;

19 albeit I do not say to thee how thou owest unto me even thine own self besides.

20 Yea, brother, let me have joy of thee in the Lord:

refresh my bowels in the Lord.

21 Having confidence in thy obedience I wrote unto thee, knowing that thou wilt also do more than I say.

22 But withal prepare me also a lodging: for I trust that through your prayers I shall be given unto you.

23 There salute thee Epaphras, my fellow-prisoner in Christ Jesus;

24 Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellowlabourers.

25 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.


have written - wrote. Gr. apoinoú. Only here. albeit = that. Gr. hina.

owest . . . besides. Gr. prospépheiló. Only here. let me have joy = may I profit. Gr. eménti, the root-word from which comes onésimo. "Let me have profit from thee, seeing I am sending back Onesimus (profitable) to thee."


knowing. Ap. 158. 1. i.

also do more = do more also.

more than = above (Ap. 104. xvii. 2) that which.

withal. Gr. hina. See Col. 4. 3.

trust = hope. Gr. elpízi.


Epaphras. See Col. 1. 7.

fellow-prisoner. Gr. synaichmalcos. See Rom. 16. 7.

Apostles. See Acts 12. 12; 13; 15, 37, 38, Col. 4. 10, 2 Tim. 4. 11, 20, 4; 27. 2, 3, 10. Demas. See Col. 4. 14.

THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE EPISTLE AS A WHOLE.

(Introversion and Alternation.)

A | 1. 1—2. 18. DOCTRINAL INTRODUCTION.

B | C | 3. 1—4. 13. THE MISSION OF CHRIST.

D | 4. 14—16. GENERAL APPLICATION. "HAVING THEREFORE."

B | C | 5. 1—10. 18. THE PRIESTHOOD OF CHRIST.

D | 10. 19—12. 28. PARTICULAR APPLICATION. "HAVING THEREFORE."

A | 13. 1—28. PRACTICAL CONCLUSION.

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