

## ARE YOU USEFUL OR USELESS

### **Matthew 5:13 (KJV)**

<sup>13</sup> Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

### **Hebrews 11:1 (KJV)**

<sup>1</sup> Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

## READ THE WHOLE BOOK OF PHILEMON

### **Philemon 1:1-25 (KJV)**

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy *our* brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer,

<sup>2</sup> And to *our* beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers,

<sup>5</sup> Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints;

<sup>6</sup> That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

<sup>7</sup> For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother.

<sup>8</sup> Wherefore, though I might be much bold in Christ to enjoin thee that which is convenient,

<sup>9</sup> Yet for love's sake I rather beseech *thee*, being such an one as Paul the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ.

<sup>10</sup> I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds:

<sup>11</sup> Which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me:

<sup>12</sup> Whom I have sent again: thou therefore receive him, that is, mine own bowels:

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

<sup>14</sup> But without thy mind would I do nothing; that thy benefit should not be as it were of necessity, but willingly.

<sup>15</sup> For perhaps he therefore departed for a season, that thou shouldest receive him for ever;

<sup>16</sup> 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?

<sup>17</sup> If thou count me therefore a partner, receive him as myself.

<sup>18</sup> If he hath wronged thee, or oweth *thee* ought, put that on mine account;

<sup>19</sup> I Paul have written *it* with mine own hand, I will repay *it*: albeit I do not say to thee how thou owest unto me even thine own self besides.

<sup>20</sup> Yea, brother, let me have joy of thee in the Lord: refresh my bowels in the Lord.

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

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

<sup>23</sup> There salute thee Epaphras, my fellowprisoner in Christ Jesus;

<sup>24</sup> Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellowlabourers.

<sup>25</sup> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with your spirit. Amen.

PAUL IS WRITING THIS LETTER TO PHILEMON. PAUL SAYS HE IS A PRISONER OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. USELY PAUL OPENS WITH PAUL AN APOSTLE OF THE LORD JESUS. WHAT PAUL IS ABOUT TO ASK OF PHILEMON NEEDS TO BE DONE IN LOVE FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD NOT BASED ON PAUL BEING IN AUTHORITY OVER OTHERS. PAUL REMINDS HIM OF WHO HE IS, Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer,

PHILEMON—WAS A MAN WHO LOVED EVERYONE AND PROVED IT BY HELPING OTHER. A MAN OF COMPASSION. HE IS A COMMITED FOLLOWER OF JESUS. HE WAS APPARENTLY THE PASTOR OF THE COLOSSIAN CHURCH. HIS FAMILY SERVED THE LORD. HIS WIFE APPHIA (AP FEE A) AND HIS SON Archippus ( AR KHIP POS) WHO PAUL CALLED A FELLOW SOLDIER. SINCE THERE WERE NO CHURCH BUILDINGS AT THAT TIME H USED HIS HOME FOR THE CHURCH.

PAUL A SERVANT FOR THE LORD, HAVING NOW FAITH , HAVING TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD. HAVING FAITH THAT PHILEMON WOULD RECEIVE HIS WORD, WROTE TO PHILEMON ON BEHALF OF ONESIMUS. PAUL KNEW THE SITUATION , HE KNEW THE WRONG THAT ONESIMUS DID TO PHILEMON AND HE DIDN'T HOLD ANYTHING BACK.

ONESIMUS WAS in time past was to thee unprofitable, GOOD FOR NOTHING, but now profitable to thee and to me: Whom I have sent again: thou therefore receive him, that is, mine own bowels:

ONESIMUS—WAS A THIEF AND SERVANT OF PHILEMON AND HAD DONE HIM WRONG AND RAN OFF. HE MEET PAUL IN ROME AND PAUL CONVERTED HIM. <sup>10</sup> I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds: HE WAS BEGOTTEN, BORN AGAIN. NOW HE HAS ACCEPTED JESUS

### **John 3:3-5 (KJV)**

<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup> Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

ONESIMUS WAS A CHANGED MAN

**2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV)**

<sup>17</sup> Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

NOW HE WAS OF THE GREATEST USE TO PHILEMON AND PAUL FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

JESUS CHANGES LIVES, HE CAN TAKE A USELESS UNPROFITABLE, GOOD FOR NOTHING AND MAKE HIM MOST USEFUL, PROFITABLE AND GOOD PERSON. JESUS CAN TAKE NOTHING AND MAKE SOMETHING OUT OF ANY PERSON.

**John 1:12 (KJV)**

<sup>12</sup> But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

ONESIMUS NOW FAITH, DOING WHAT IS RIGHT WAS FACING HIS PAST. HAVING FAITH THAT ALL THINGS WOULD WORK OUT. FAITH THAT PHILEMON WOULD RECEIVE HIM. THIS ACT TRULY SHOWS HIS CONVERSION

THIS IS WHAT CHRISTIANITY IS ALL ABOUT,, CONVERTING AND CHANGING THE WRONG. CHANGING A WRONG EVIL WORLD, TO A WORLD OF LOVE AND GOODNESS.

PHILEMON, NOW FAITH, DOING WHAT IS RIGHT, BELIEVED THE REPORT

DID PHILEMON FORGIVE ONESIMUS, THE BIBLE DOES NOT SAY, BUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS FORGIVENESS. AND HE WAS DEDICATED TO THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

ONESIMUS WAS A CHANGED MAN AND WITH PHILEMON HE HAD BEEN CHANGED FROM A SLAVE TO A BROTHER

*For we are all Onesimuses if we believe. AND JESUS HAS FORGIVEN US OF OUR SINS, WE SHOULD FORGIVE OTHERS*