THE EPISTLE TO PHILEMON.
THE STRUCTURE OF THE EPISTLE AS A WHOLE.

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

C | 4-8. PAUL'S PRAYER FOR PHILEMON.
  D | a | 7-. PAUL'S JOY IN PHILEMON: CONFESSIONED.
    b | 7. BOWELS OF SAINTS REFRESHED.

C | G | 8. I MIGHT ENJOIN (BUT I DO NOT).
     G | 9. PAUL THE AGED.

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

K | 13. ONESIMUS MINISTERED IN THY STEAD.
    K | 14. THY BENEFIT.

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

H | 18, 19-. PAUL THE DEBTOR.

G | 10-. I DO NOT SAY (BUT I MIGHT).

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

C | 21, 22. PHILEMON'S PRAYER FOR PAUL.
A | A | 23, 24. EPISTOLARY.
  D | 25. BENEDICTION

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 Colosse, from 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 Onësimos, 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 freeman, 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. 16). Paul sends the letter by Onesimus.

3. From Col. 4, 9 we learn that Paul had sent unto the church at Colosse Tychicus "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, 24, 25.
THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO PHILEMON.

1 Paul, a bondsman of Jesus Christ, and of Timothy our brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer, 2 and to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus, and the church in thy house, grace to you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, 4 praising the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ by reason of thee very much, our God, according to the good works of faith and charity which are of thee.

5 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Thrice blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

6 That the communication of thy faith may be increased by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you through Christ Jesus.

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

8 Wherefore, though I be 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 a prisoner of Jesus Christ.

10 I beseech thee 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 me:

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

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

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

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

PHILEMON.

16 Not now.  No longer.  Gr. oukētē.

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

H 18 If he hath wronged thee, or oweth thee,
ought, put that on mine account;
19 Paul have written it with mine own hand,
I will repay it;

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

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

b refresh my bowels in the Lord.

C 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.

A 23 There salute thee Epaphras, my fellow-
prisoner in Christ Jesus;
24 Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas,
my fellowlabourers.

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

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. 18—12. 25. PARTICULAR APPLICATION. “HAVING THEREFORE.”

A | 13. 1—25. PRACTICAL CONCLUSION.

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