

## Philemon: Reconciliation in the Kingdom

### Background

#### Key verses (8-9)

Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you.

#### Outline<sup>1</sup>

- 1) Paul's greeting (1-3)
- 2) Thanksgiving and intercession for Philemon (4-21)
- 3) Paul's plea for Onesimus (8-22)
  - a. Paul's return of Onesimus (8-16)
  - b. Philemon's reception of Onesimus (17-22)
- 4) Final remarks (23-25)

#### Major Themes and Message

- Reconciliation through the power of the cross
- Appealing on the basis of love

#### Conclusion

## Core Seminars—New Testament Class 17: Colossians & Philemon: The Sufficient King



### The Sufficient King: Overview of Colossians & Philemon

#### Introduction

##### I. Authorship:

##### II. Date:

#### Colossians: New Life in Christ

##### III. Purpose

Attack on the sufficiency of Jesus Christ.

- 1) Judaizing tendencies deny the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ's work (2:16-17)
- 2) Preoccupation with angelic experiences deny the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ (2:18-19)
- 3) Asceticism denies the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ. (2:20-23)

The life of the Kingdom is a cross-centered life.

<sup>1</sup> Cf [http://www.bible.org/page.php?page\\_id=1344](http://www.bible.org/page.php?page_id=1344)

**Key verses: 2:6-7**

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

**Outline**

- 1) Introduction (1:1-14)
- 2) Christ is sufficient for attaining new life. (1:15-20)
- 3) Reconciliation of the Colossians to God (1:21-23)
- 4) The apostle Paul's labor for the gospel (1:24-2:3)
- 5) The worldly alternatives, and their dangers (2:4-23)
- 6) How to out our new life in Christ (3:1-4:6)
- 7) Personal notes and final greetings (4:7-18)

**Major Themes**

1. The source of their new life
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ God.
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ Christ
  - c. Through Christ \_\_\_\_\_
2. The purpose of their new life
  - a. \_\_\_\_ God
  - b. For others
    - i. Family
    - ii. Colleagues
    - iii. Everyone
  - c. The need to persevere

**Application:**

What is it in our lives that might replace Christ in terms of how we live the Christian life?

- 1) Are we always looking to the next spiritual 'high'
  - a. The great sermon
  - b. The answered prayer
  - c. The new Christian book

All these things are good only as much as they point us back to the gospel and to depend upon Christ.

- 2) Do we depend upon ourselves or Christ?
  - a. How different would your day look if you decided that tomorrow you were going to stop trying to live for Jesus in His strength and start living in your strength?
  - b. When things are going well, do we feel good about ourselves, or feel grateful to the Lord?