

FOR LOVE'S SAKE...REFRESH MY HEART

PHILEMON: LESSONS FROM PAUL'S LETTER TO A FRIEND

PART 2

"AM I ALIGNED WITH JESUS?"

"Embracing the Mission of Jesus As My Own"

(Examining Paul's Part in the Story)

INTRODUCTION:

REVISITING THE HEART OF THE LETTER

1. PAUL'S PRESENT CONDITION: THE _____ WHICH HE WRITES:

- He is temporarily in prison, but continually on mission.

"Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus,..." (v. 1, 9)

2. PAUL'S PRIMARY CONCERN: THE _____ WHICH HE WRITES:

- **It's Focus:** *"Receive Onesimus and refresh my heart."*

"If then you regard me a partner, accept [receive] him as you would me.... Yes, brother, let me benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ."

- **It's Force:** *"For loves's sake..."*

"Therefore, though I have enough confidence in Christ to order you to do what is proper, yet for love's sake I rather appeal to you...

- *The ultimate motive for service and gospel obedience is not obligation, but affection.*

3. PAUL'S PARTICULAR CAST: HIS _____ WHAT HE WRITES

- *Philemon is the _____ . Onesimus is the _____ .
And Paul is the _____ .*

PAUL, ON MISSION WITH JESUS:

“...I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly and from house to house, solemnly testifying to both Jews and Greeks of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.... But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God.”

—Acts 20:20-24

1A. THE _____ MISSION OR WORK OF JESUS:

“Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, ‘Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You,... I glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do. Now, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.’”

—John 17:1-5

- His Work of _____ and _____ is...
His Work _____ which we _____.

2A. THE _____ MISSION OR WORK OF JESUS:

“Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

—2 Corinthians 5:18-21

- His Work of _____ is...
His Work _____ which we _____.

CONCLUSION:

- Jesus has not only _____ me _____ His mission;
He has also _____ me _____ His mission.