

Philemon • The Application of Christianity

1. (v.1-7) Philemon is not just a recipient of a right relationship with **Christ**, but a **conduit** of same to everyone around him.
2. (v.8-10) Onesimus is someone who had undergone a profound **spiritual** change.
3. (v.11) A defining characteristic of a new life truly and completely **changed** by Christ is that it not only fulfills **new** roles and responsibilities, but makes amends for the **past**.
4. (v.12-14) Christians are **forgiven** of their past sinful life by Christ, but they may need to **prove** the effect of Christ's change in their life by taking responsibility to make any **amends** as a result of those sins. It's a **testimony** of Christ both personally and to others.
5. (v.15-16) Onesimus—now a **new creation** in Christ—returns as a **new creation** in terms of his relationship with Philemon.
6. (v.17-20) Philemon's reconciliation with Onesimus will pay back greatly in spiritual **dividends** for everyone concerned.
7. (v.21) Just because we're "right" doesn't **exempt** our behavior and attitude from submission to **Christ** in the process.