

**JOY AND CONSOLATION IN LOVE**

## Philemon 7

## INTRODUCTION

- A. Read the text. So we can begin to realize these blessings
- B. Regarding the text. .
  - 1. Paul states that he had great joy and consolation because of Philemon's acts of love (or acts of charity) towards the saints that needed help.
    - a. Here, he is leading into what will later become apparent to Philemon: that since Onesimus is now a Christian he must treat him as a brother and not a slave – verse 16.
    - b. Paul has to work easy with Philemon because he knows that Onesimus has done wrong and he wants to make it as easy on Onesimus as possible without putting too much of a strain on their friendship; but he does remind Philemon that he (Philemon) does owe Paul (whatever that might be, it isn't stated).
  - 2. As Christians we can have joy and consolation (comfort) in love whether that love be acts of charity or brotherly love that we are to have for one another.
    - a. As we perform these acts of charity or have this love for one another we can have joy and comfort.
    - b. We can also have joy and comfort in love for the world, not the lustful things of the world, but the people of the world.
  - 3. Let us look at how to have joy and comfort in love.
- C. We can have “joy” and “comfort in love.

## DISCUSSION

- I. WE HAVE A COMMON SAVIOR.
  - A. He was not just a rich man's savior-
    - 1. Although he said that most rich people would be lost (Mt. 19:24).
    - 2. He said he came to save the lost – MT 18:11.
  - B. He was not just a poor man's savior-
    - 1. Although he went among the poor – MT 11:5.
    - 2. Jesus condemned the rich young ruler for not giving to the poor – MK 10:21-23.
  - C. He was everyone's savior; he was common to all.
    - 1. He died for the whole world – JN 3:16.
    - 2. He died for all men - RO 5:6, 8-9.
- II. WE HAVE A COMMON SALVATION.
  - A. There is not one salvation for the rich and one for the poor; there is only one for all.
    - 1. Only in Christ – Acts 4:12.
    - 2. Only in the blood of Christ – HE 9:12.
  - B. One cannot buy or earn his way into heaven.
    - 1. Salvation is not for sale – RO 6:23.
    - 2. By grace through the faith of the gospel – EP 2:8-9.
  - C. This way everyone has an opportunity to receive it.
    - 1. This is why it is so important for us, as Christians to take it to the lost – MK 16:15-16.
    - 2. Without it they will be lost – 2 TH 1:7-9.
- III. WE HAVE A COMMON LOVE.

- A. Our savior taught us to love one another – JN 13:34-35.
- B. Our savior taught us to love the lost – JN 3:16.
- C. Our savior taught us to love our enemies – MT 5:43-44.
- D. We have all these things in common, and with this being the case we can have joy and comfort in our lives regardless of the turmoil that goes on in the world.

**CONCLUSION**

- A. We can have joy and comfort in love because:
  - 1. We have a common Savior.
  - 2. We have a common Salvation.
  - 3. We have a common Love.
- B. When we see that we have these things in common, we can learn to have joy and comfort in love.