


From
Forgiven
to
Faithfulness



2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon

A Story of Forgiveness Lesson 1 • Philemon 1

“Paul wrote this letter to Philemon, a believer in Colosse who, along with others, was a slave owner (cf. Col 4:1; for slavery in the NT see note on Eph 6:5). One of his slaves, Onesimus, had apparently stolen from him (cf. v. 18) and then run away, which under Roman law was punishable by death. But Onesimus met Paul & through his ministry became a Christian (see v. 10). Now he was willing to return to his master, and Paul writes this personal appeal to ask that he be accepted as a Christian brother (v. 16).”



FIRST-CENTURY BIBLE LANDS

Paul in Prison



Possible route of Onesimus

Philemon

EPHESIANS 4:31-32

EPHESIANS

“Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind & compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

COLOSSIANS 1:12-14

COLOSSIANS

“giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”