

Now to Him who is able to keep you
from stumbling, and to present you
faultless before the presence of His glory
with exceeding joy.

Jude 24

The Meaning of Resurrection Day

The Meaning of Resurrection Day

The Story

The Meaning of Resurrection Day

The Story

The Meaning

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The Story

The Meaning

The Implication

Colossians

Colossians 4:7-18

Colossians 4:7-18

Tychicus – Colossians 4:7-8

Colossians 4:7-18

Tychicus – Colossians 4:7-8

Onesimus – Colossians 4:9

Colossians 4:7-18

Tychicus – Colossians 4:7-8

Onesimus – Colossians 4:9

Aristarchus – Colossians 4:10

Colossians 4:7-18

Tychicus – Colossians 4:7-8

Onesimus – Colossians 4:9

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Mark – Colossians 4:10

Colossians 4:7-18

Tychicus – Colossians 4:7-8

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Mark – Colossians 4:10

Jesus called Justus – Colossians 4:11

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Tychicus – Colossians 4:7-8

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Jesus called Justus – Colossians 4:11

Epaphras – Colossians 4:12

Luke – Colossians 4:14

Demas – Colossians 4:14

Colossians 4:7-18

Nymphas – Colossians 4:15

Colossians 4:7-18

Nymphas – Colossians 4:15

Archippus – Colossians 4:17

Colossians 4:7-18

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Means “profitable” or “useful”

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Philemon 10

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He was a run-away slave of Philemon.

He possibly stole some items from Philemon and was afraid of the punishment he would receive.

He met Paul and was converted to Christianity.

Paul encouraged him to return to Philemon in order to make things right by asking for forgiveness and accepting any consequences for his actions.

Onesimus

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Tychicus, a beloved brother, faithful minister, and fellow servant in the Lord, will tell you all the news about me. I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that he may know your circumstances and comfort your hearts, with Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will make known to you all things which are happening here.

Colossians 4:7-9

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Paul considered them equals.

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with Onesimus, (described as) a faithful (or, trustworthy, steadfast, one that can be relied upon) and beloved (*agapetos* – dear, esteemed, worthy of love) brother (or, member of the same family, of the same nature and origin), who is one of you (or, now a Believer). They (Tychicus and Onesimus, together) will make known to you (what) all things which are happening here.

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Philemon 10

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Or, “who became my son while in my chains.”

Or, “whose father I became in my chains.”

Philemon

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The church in Colossae met in his house.

Philemon

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Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus,
and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon (described as) our beloved friend and
fellow laborer, to the beloved Apphia, Archippus our
fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philemon 1-3

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Paul then goes on to tell Philemon how much he misses him, how he prays for him continually, and how others have been refreshed by the faith of Philemon.

Philemon

I thank my God, making mention of you always in my prayers, hearing of your love and faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints, that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. For we have great joy and consolation in your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed by you, brother.

Philemon 4-7

Philemon

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Why is Philemon included in our Bible?

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The letter to Philemon takes the truth that Christians are to forgive each other, which is taught elsewhere in Scripture (see Eph. 4:23; Col. 3:13), and applies it to a specific situation.

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John 5:39

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Paul's Plea to Philemon Based on Grace

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Therefore, though I might be very bold in Christ to (what) command you (or, order you) what is fitting (or, right, the result of duty), yet for love's (*agape*) sake I rather (what) appeal to you (or, beseech you)—being such a one as Paul, the aged (or, an old man), and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ—

Philemon 8-9

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Paul's Reason for His Letter

I appeal (*parakaleo* – to come along side, to comfort, aid, encourage, exhort) to you for my son (who) Onesimus (meaning “profitable” or “useful”), whom I have begotten (or, to give, to bring forth, to father) while in my chains (or, imprisonment), who once was (past tense) unprofitable to you, but now is (present tense) profitable to you and to me.

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I am sending him back. You therefore receive him, (described as) that is, my own heart, whom I wished to keep with me, (why) that on your behalf (or, in your stead, in your place) he might minister (how) to me in my chains for the gospel.

Philemon 10-13

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Paul's Reason for His Letter

I am sending him back. You therefore receive him, (described as) that is, my own heart, whom I wished to keep with me, (why) that on your behalf (or, in your stead, in your place) he might minister (how) to me in my chains for the gospel.

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Nor did he send word to Philemon to come to Rome to take Onesimus back.

Paul instructed Onesimus in the Gospel, eventually leading him to Christ (Phile. 10).

He then sent Onesimus back to Philemon as a trusted messenger and brother in Christ, bearing a request for Philemon to grant Onesimus his freedom (Phile. 12).

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Instead, Paul stated that it was by the merciful providence of God that he had departed from Philemon (Phile. 15).

Paul desired for Philemon to receive Onesimus back no longer as a servant, but as a beloved brother and partner in Christ (Phile. 16-17).

Philemon

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(if/then) If then you count me as a partner (or, companion, partaker, comrade, one who shares in everything), (then) receive him (how) as you would me. But (if/then) if he has wronged you (or, hurt, damaged, injured, to act unjustly or wickedly, to sin against) or (what) owes anything, (then) put that (or, reckon) on my account.

Philemon 17-18

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It is commonly believed that Onesimus was received by Philemon and forgiven his debt, just as Paul had asked and expected (Phile. 21).

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“You search the Scriptures, (why) for in them you think you have eternal life; and these (the Scriptures) are they which testify of Me.”

John 5:39

Philemon Represents God the Father

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Philemon represents God the Father, the One who was wronged, the One who was sinned against, the One who rightfully sits in judgment, the One who holds in His hands both life and death, freedom and bondage, for Onesimus, the rebellious, guilty, runaway slave.

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And He holds in His hands the same life and death, freedom and bondage, for you and me.

Onesimus Represents You and Me

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We are Onesimus, the arrogant, ungrateful, rebellious, guilty-as-charged, runaway slave. We stand before Philemon with no defense, convicted, ashamed, ready to be judged for our actions. We, like Onesimus, chafed at the yoke placed upon us and decided to run, like the prodigal son, into the world to make our own way with our pockets full of stolen money.

Onesimus Represents You and Me

We, like Onesimus, are guilty, judged, and stand ready to be sentenced. We have no alibi, no excuse, and we can expect no mercy from the Roman law that must be obeyed.

After all, “the wages of sin is death” (Rom 6:23).

Paul Represents Jesus Christ

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Paul represents the Lord Jesus Christ. He sees value in what the world throws away (vs. 11) and offers grace to those who deserve none. He knows that Onesimus is guilty and deserves the punishment he has earned. But Paul, like Christ, also loves the runaway slave and offers himself as the satisfaction of the Law.

Paul Represents Jesus Christ

“If he has wronged you, and we all know that he has, put the consequences of his sin on me. Impute his guilt to me. Let me pay the penalty for his sin and let what I pay atone for what he has done. Let me stand in his place, as his substitute, and let my payment satisfy Onesimus’ debt.”

The Meaning of Resurrection Day

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Why?

For He lives to make intercession to the Father for us.

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My little children, these things I write to you, (why) so that you may not sin. And if (or, since, because) anyone sins, (what) we have an Advocate (*paraklētos* – one summoned, one called to one's side, one who pleads another's cause before a judge, a helper, a comforter, an encourager, a proxy) with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

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Also there were many priests (in the Old Testament), (why) because they (the priests) were prevented by death from continuing (to offer sacrifices). But He (Jesus), because He continues (or, to abide, rest, live, dwell, remain) forever, (He) has an unchangeable (or, one that cannot be passed to a successor, eternal, one that cannot be voided) priesthood.

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Therefore He is also able (or, has the power by virtue of one's own ability and resources) to save (or, keep safe, to deliver or rescue from danger or destruction) to the uttermost (or, completely, perfectly, entirely) those who come to God (how) through Him, (why) since He always (or, at all times, ever) lives to make intercession (or, pray, to go meet a person for the purpose of conversation or supplication) for them.

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He always lives to make intercession for us.

The security of our salvation is Jesus' perpetual intercession for us. We can no more keep ourselves saved than we can save ourselves in the first place. But just as Jesus has power to save us, He has power to keep us. Constantly, eternally, perpetually Jesus Christ intercedes for us before His Father.

The Meaning of Resurrection Day

Whenever we sin He says to the Father, “Put that on My account. My sacrifice has already paid for it.”

Through Jesus Christ, He is “able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,” (Jude 24).

In His Son we are now blameless in the Father’s sight.

John MacArthur

