

The Great Exchange Notes

Philemon 17-25

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Main Point: At its core, the gospel is all about having our debt of sin paid for by Jesus, who exchanged His righteousness for our rottenness.

Receive (vs. 17)

1. The word “if” can be translated as “_____.”
2. The word “partner” was used to describe Peter, James, and John’s partnership as _____ (Luke 5:10).
3. It comes from the same word as “fellowship” and means, “fellow partaker who shares everything in common with Christ.
4. The idea behind “receive” is “to take to oneself, to grant _____ to one’s heart and home, to welcome into one’s family circle.” (Romans 15:7).
5. For reconciliation to take place, rejection must _____.
6. We were runaways, and when we turned back the Father _____ us into His forever family.
7. Since Christ has received us like that, how can we not _____ one another.

Release (vs. 18).

1. If verse 17 speaks of the doctrine of identification, verse 18 describes the doctrine of imputation.
2. The word “wronged” refers to being “_____, hurt, or unjustly treated.”
3. “Owes” means to be indebted _____.
4. The word “charge” is an accounting term which means “to _____.”
5. Our _____ is charged to His account (Isaiah 53:6, Psalm 32:2).
6. Jesus not only takes our rottenness; He _____ to us His righteousness (Romans 4:5).
7. A helpful summary of the doctrine of imputation is “We owned a debt we could not _____; He paid a debt He did not owe.”
8. In the Greco-Roman world, when someone wrote out a financial obligation in their own _____, it functioned as a legally binding promissory note.
9. Onesimus owed a _____ debt; Philemon owed Paul a spiritual debt (1 Corinthians 4:15).

Refresh (vs. 20)

1. The phrase “I want some benefit from you” is emphatic and speaks of _____ or joy.
2. The word “benefit” is closely related to the name Onesimus in Greek.
3. It’s important for people to know how highly we _____ of them (2 Corinthians 2:3).
4. Paul not only believed Philemon would do the right thing; he believed he would go over and _____ (Matthew 5:41).

Respond

1. To provide some urgency and _____, Paul tells Philemon in verse 22 that he hopes to come and stay with him when he is released.

Remember (vs. 23-24)

1. Paul reminded Philemon that conflict and disagreement don’t just affect two people, it impacts the _____ of God.

2. Paul told Philemon he's surrounded by a living " _____ of brothers" who were also urging him to do the right thing.
 - Epaphras the praying _____ (Colossians 1:7).
 - Epaphras was called a "beloved fellow servant" and "a _____ minister of Christ."
 - The Greek word for "struggling" means "agonizing, _____, striving, and fighting like an athlete in the arena."
 - He prayed with passion, persistence, and _____.
 - Mark the comeback kid.
 - As one of Jesus' disciples, he _____ in fear, leaving his clothes behind, when Christ was arrested (Mark 15:51-52)
 - Later, he folded under pressure during Paul's first missionary journey and scurried back home (Acts 13:13).
 - Paul didn't want to give him another chance, but Barnabas stood up for him and _____ him to ministry (Acts 15:36-40).
 - Paul saw value in him and encouraged the believers to " _____ him" (Colossians 4:10).
 - Right before Paul's execution, he said _____ words about Mark (2 Timothy 4:11).
 - Because of the grace of God, Mark's failure didn't _____ him.
 - Aristarchus the steadfast _____.
 - Aristarchus is the picture of loyal, long-haul _____.
 - He _____ Paul through the riot in Ephesus (Acts 19:29) and sailed with Paul into life-threatening storms and survived a shipwreck (Acts 27:2).
 - He was a "fellow _____" with Paul in Rome (Colossians 4:10).
 - So many of us want to do the fantastic, amazing, and spectacular, while God wants us to focus on being humble, faithful, _____, and available.
 - Demas the deconstructing _____.
 - Demas _____ his faith (2 Timothy 4:10).
 - Perhaps you think you'll never fall away from the faith, but I've seen it happen many times over the years.
 - _____ can lead to desertion.
 - Demas reminds us that it's entirely possible to begin well and yet finish poorly.
 - The world's pull is _____, compromise is subtle, and faith can quietly cool if it's not cultivated.
 - Luke the faithful _____ (2 Timothy 4:14)
 - He joined Paul on his _____ journeys.
 - When others left Paul, Luke _____ (2 Timothy 4:11)
 - He cared for Paul physically, supported him spiritually, and _____ the spread of the gospel with historical precision.
 - God uses every _____ for His glory.
3. As grace _____ Philemon's spirit, he would be able to give grace to Onesimus and welcome him as a brother.
4. The letter to Philemon begins and ends with a focus on _____.