

Salem Bible Church
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**Slavery in the Bible
and
The Book of Philemon**

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Messages from prior years are there
as well.

The Bible and Slavery

- Types of Slavery
- The Bible condemns race-based slavery
- The Bible condemns human trafficking
- The NT regulates slaves and masters
- Slavery practices in ancient Rome
- The OT regulates Israelite slaves and masters
- The OT regulates foreign slaveholding
- A bad way to justify slavery

Type of Slavery	Why it was Practiced, i.e. <u>Motive</u> . What Advantage?	<u>Justification</u> – Why it was Thought to be OK?
Chattel Slavery – 18 th -19 th Centuries in U.S.	Economic – Owners make more profit Advantage: Owner	Racial – one race thinks itself higher than another
Forced Labor or Marriage, Sex Trafficking, etc.	Exploitation of slave for labor or personal pleasure of the oppressor Advantage: Oppressor	Just because someone has the power to do it to another?
Indentured Servitude	Economic – Impoverished helped out of debt Advantage: Servant and Master	Economic – Mutual Advantage
Voluntary Servitude	Convenience, Personal Reasons Advantage: Servant and Master	Mutual Consent – Perhaps to elevate servant's status

Outline of Philemon

Verses	Topic
• 1-7	A Very Personal Letter
• 8-16	The Appeal
• 17-21	Reconciliation Based on Imputation
• 22-25	Closing Words

Philemon 1-3

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy *our* brother,

To Philemon our beloved *friend* and fellow laborer, ² to the beloved Apphia, Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philemon 4-6

⁴ I thank my God, making mention of you always in my prayers,

⁵ hearing of your love and faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints,

⁶ that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

Philemon 7

⁷ For we have great joy and consolation in your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed by you, brother.

Philemon 8-9

⁸ Therefore, though I might be very bold in Christ to command you what is fitting,

⁹ *yet* for love's sake I rather appeal *to you*-- being such a one as Paul, the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ—

Philemon 10-11

¹⁰ I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten *while* in my chains, ¹¹ who once was unprofitable to you, but now is profitable to you and to me.

Philemon 12-14

¹² I am sending him back. You therefore receive him, that is, my own heart, ¹³ whom I wished to keep with me, that on your behalf he might minister to me in my chains for the gospel.

¹⁴ But without your consent I wanted to do nothing, that your good deed might not be by compulsion, as it were, but voluntary.

Philemon 15-16

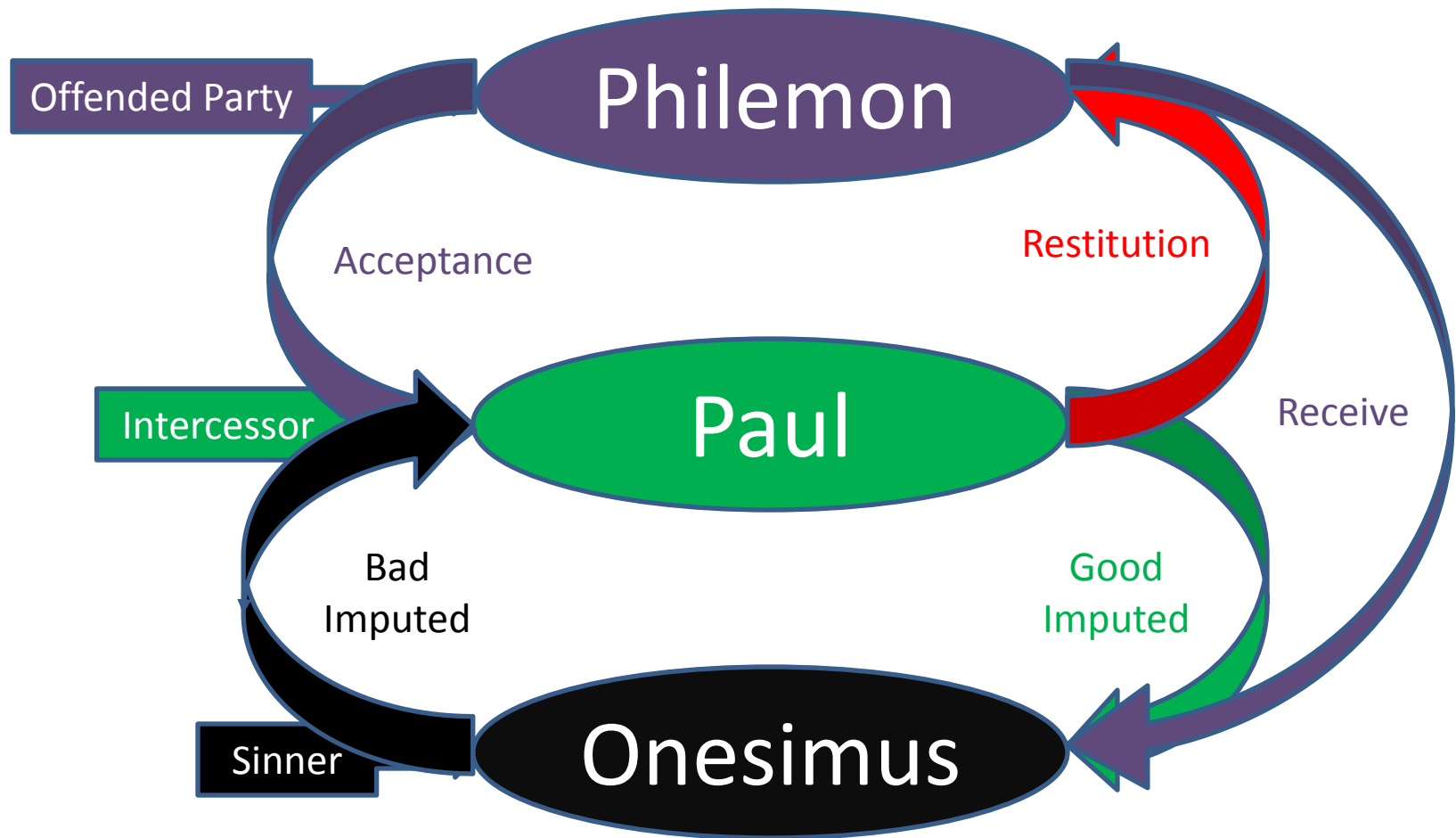
¹⁵ For perhaps he departed for a while for this *purpose*, that you might receive him forever,
¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave—a beloved brother, especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

Philemon 17-18

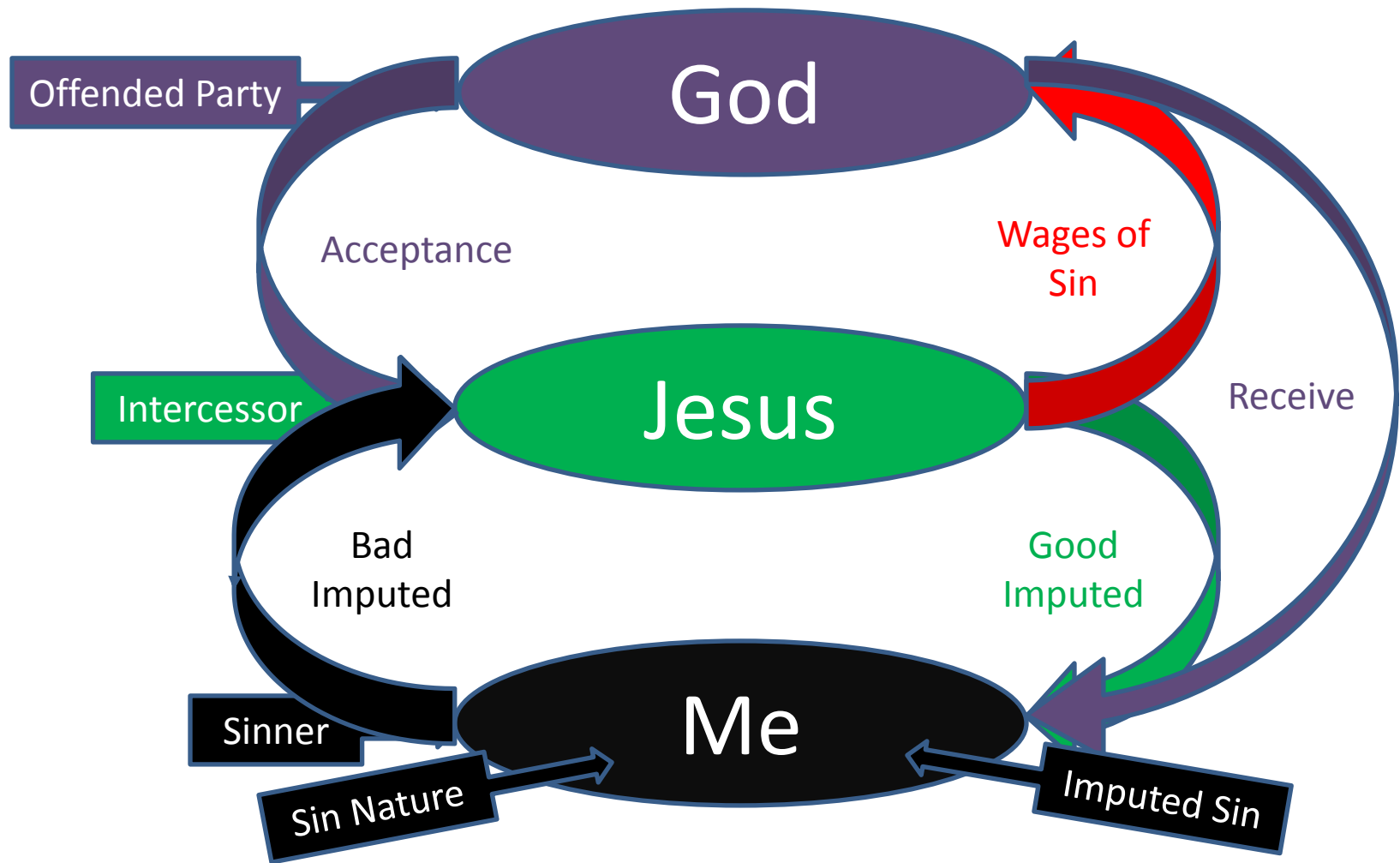
¹⁷ If then you count me as a partner, receive him as *you would* me.

¹⁸ But if he has wronged you or owes anything, put that on my account.

The Gospel in Philemon



The Gospel in Philemon



Philemon 19-21

¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing with my own hand. I will repay—not to mention to you that you owe me even your own self besides.

²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have joy from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in the Lord. ²¹ Having confidence in your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Philemon 22-25

²² But, meanwhile, also prepare a guest room for me, for I trust that through your prayers I shall be granted to you.

²³ Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you, ²⁴ *as do* Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow laborers.

²⁵ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with your spirit. Amen.