

Philemon 1:4, 7, 9-11, 15-16 (JBP)

⁴ I always thank God for you, Philemon, in my constant prayers for you all, for I have heard how you love and trust both the Lord Jesus himself and those who believe in him.

⁷ It is your love, my brother, that gives us such comfort and happiness, for it cheers the hearts of your fellow-Christians.

⁹ I am appealing to that love of yours, a simple personal appeal from Paul the old man, in prison for Jesus Christ's sake. ¹⁰ I am appealing for my child. Yes, I have become a father though I have been under lock and key, and the child's name is - Onesimus!

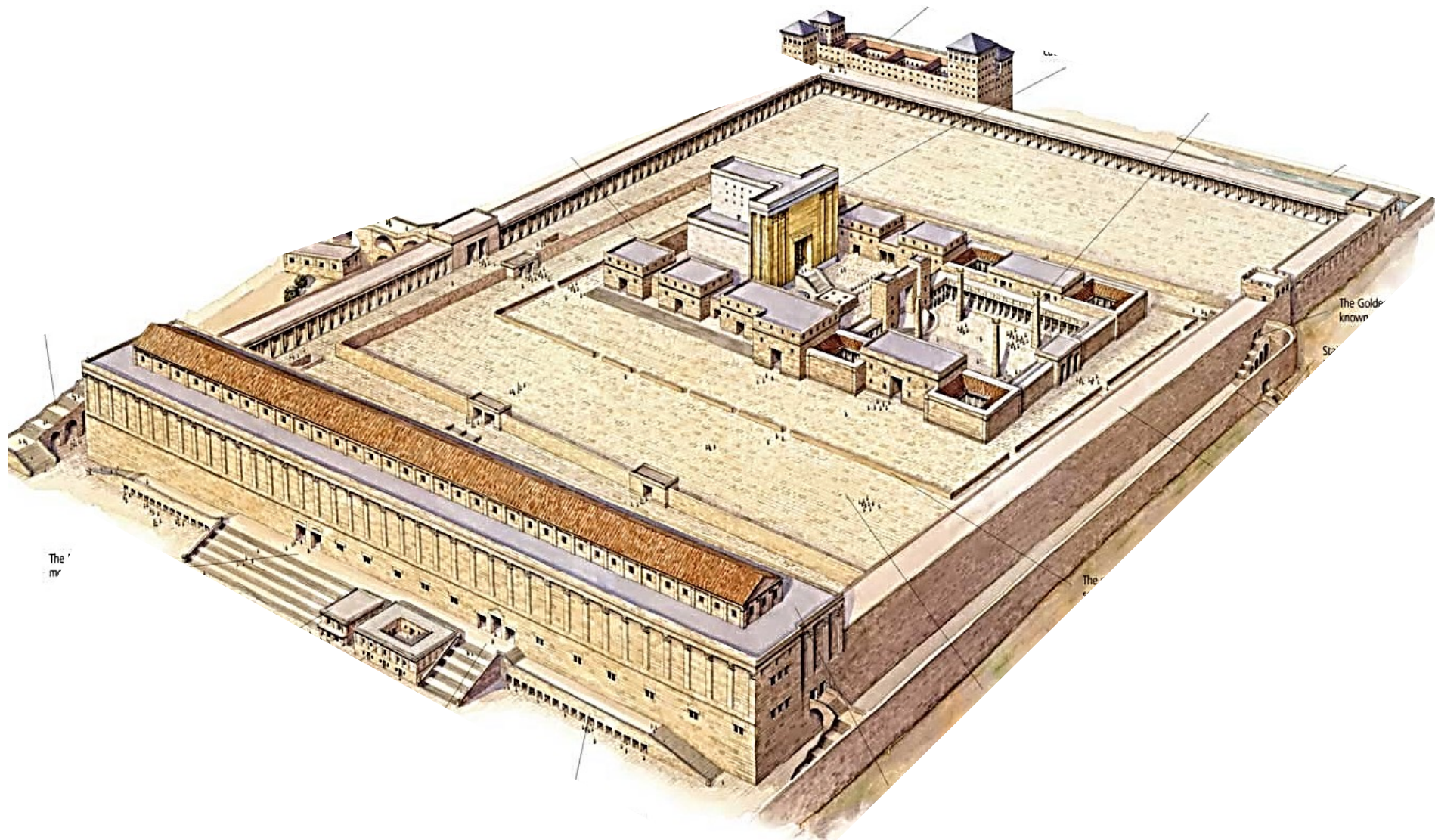
¹¹ Oh, I know you have found him pretty useless in the past but he is going to be useful now, to both of us. I am sending him back to you: will you receive him as my son, part of me?

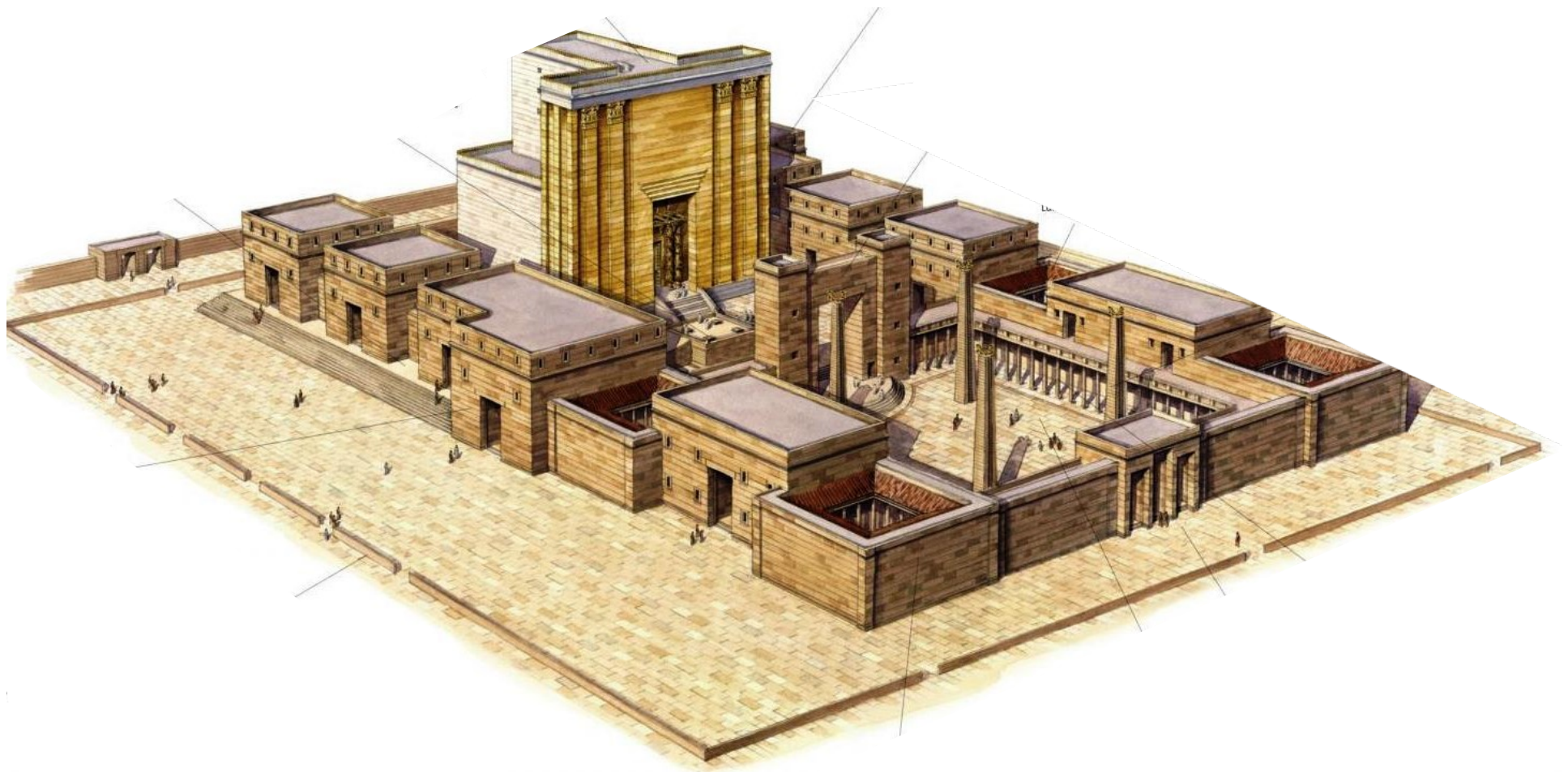
¹⁵ It occurs to me that there has been a purpose in your losing him. You lost him, a slave, for a time; now you are having him back for good, ¹⁶ not merely as a slave, but as a brother-Christian...

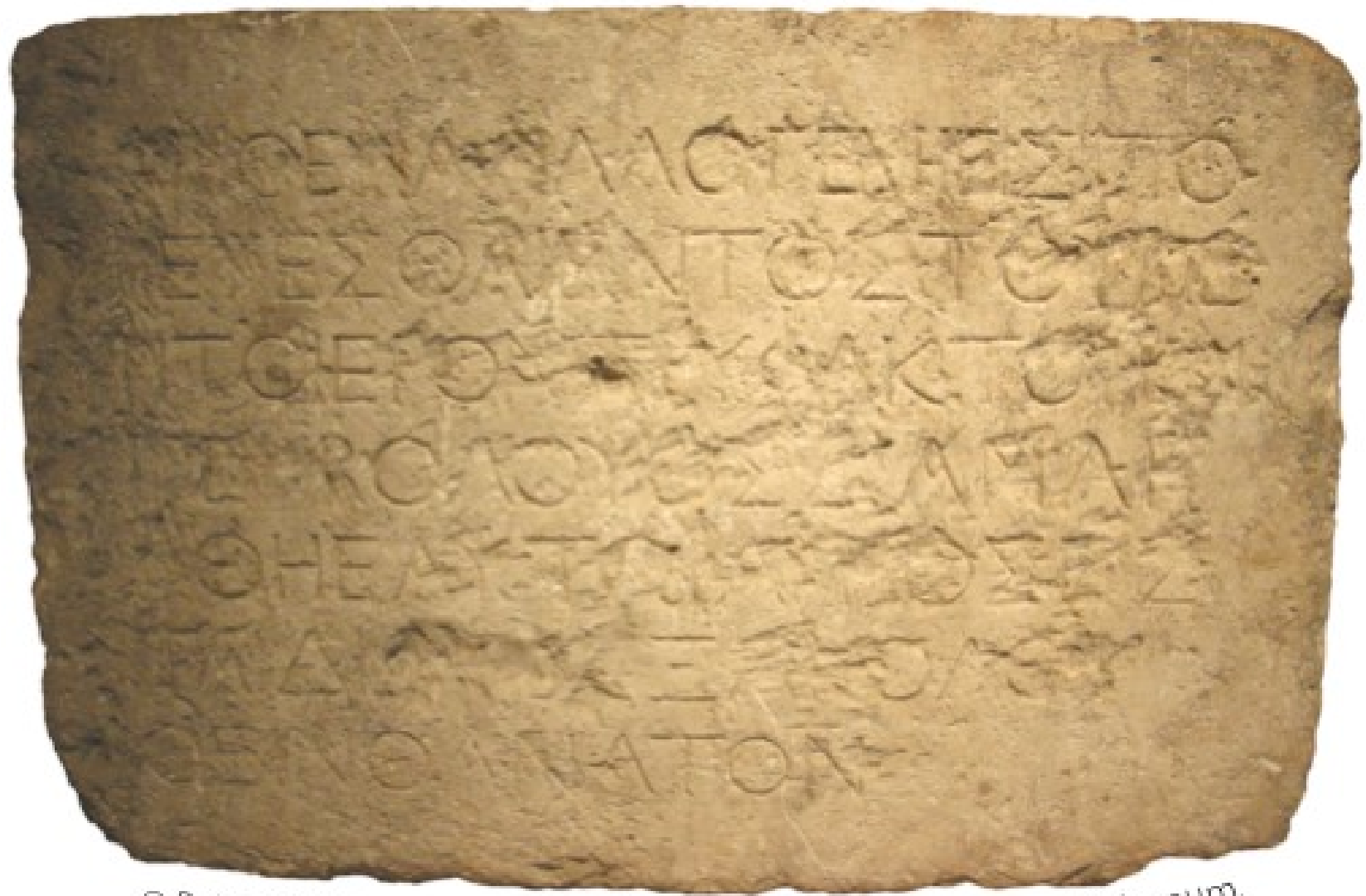
¹⁶ ...He is already especially loved by me -
how much more will you be able to love him,
both as a man and as a fellow-Christian!

LOVE and Reconciliation

Philemon 1:1-25







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Ephesians 2:14 (NLT)

For Christ Himself has **brought peace** to us.

He **UNITED Jews and Gentiles** into **ONE people** when, in His own body on the cross,

He broke down **the wall of hostility** that
separated us.

Colossians 3:11 (NLT)

In this **New Life**, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. **Christ is ALL that matters, and He lives in ALL of us.**



1 Samuel 12:23 (NIV)

...as for me, far be it from me that I should
sin against God by CEASING
to pray for you...

⁷ Your **LOVE** has given me **MUCH joy**
and **comfort**, my brother, for your
Kindness has often **REFRESHED** the
hearts of God's people.

A Good Encourager

- is **Available**
- is a Good **LISTENER**
- does NOT give pat **ANSWERS**
- has walked the Road **BEFORE**
- Always **POINTS** you to the Lord

¹² I am **sending him back** to you:
will you **receive him AS MY SON**,
part of me? JBP

¹⁴ if you have a favor to give me,
let it be **spontaneous** and **not forced**
from you **by circumstances!** JBP

IN Christ we are **ONE** family.
NO WALLS of **Racial, Economic,**
or **Political** differences
should separate us. LASB

¹⁵ It seems **you LOST Onesimus for a little while SO THAT** you could have him back forever. (NLT)

...he was **PARTED from you for a while** (ESV)

...there has been a **purpose in your**
LOSING him. (JBP)

Acts 4:24 (NLT)

²⁴ ...**O Sovereign Lord**, Creator of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them...

²⁹ ...consider their threats and **enable your servants to speak Your Word** with **Great BOLDNESS**.

Paul saw each person's **Conversion**
as a **Sovereign act of God.** HOTC

⁷ Your **LOVE** has given me great joy
and **encouragement**, because you, brother,
have **Refreshed** the hearts of the saints.

2 Corinthians 5:17, 18, 20 (CSB)

¹⁷ ...if anyone is **IN Christ**, he is a
New Creation; the old has passed away,
and see, **the new has come!**

¹⁸ Everything is **FROM God**, who has
Reconciled us to Himself THROUGH
Christ and has **given us the Ministry**
of RECONCILIATION.

²⁰ ...we are ambassadors for Christ,
since God is making His appeal through us.

We plead on Christ's behalf,

Be RECONCILED to God.