



PAULINE *Epistles*

**Welcome to a New Study on
Paul's Minor Epistles**

Sanford church of Christ

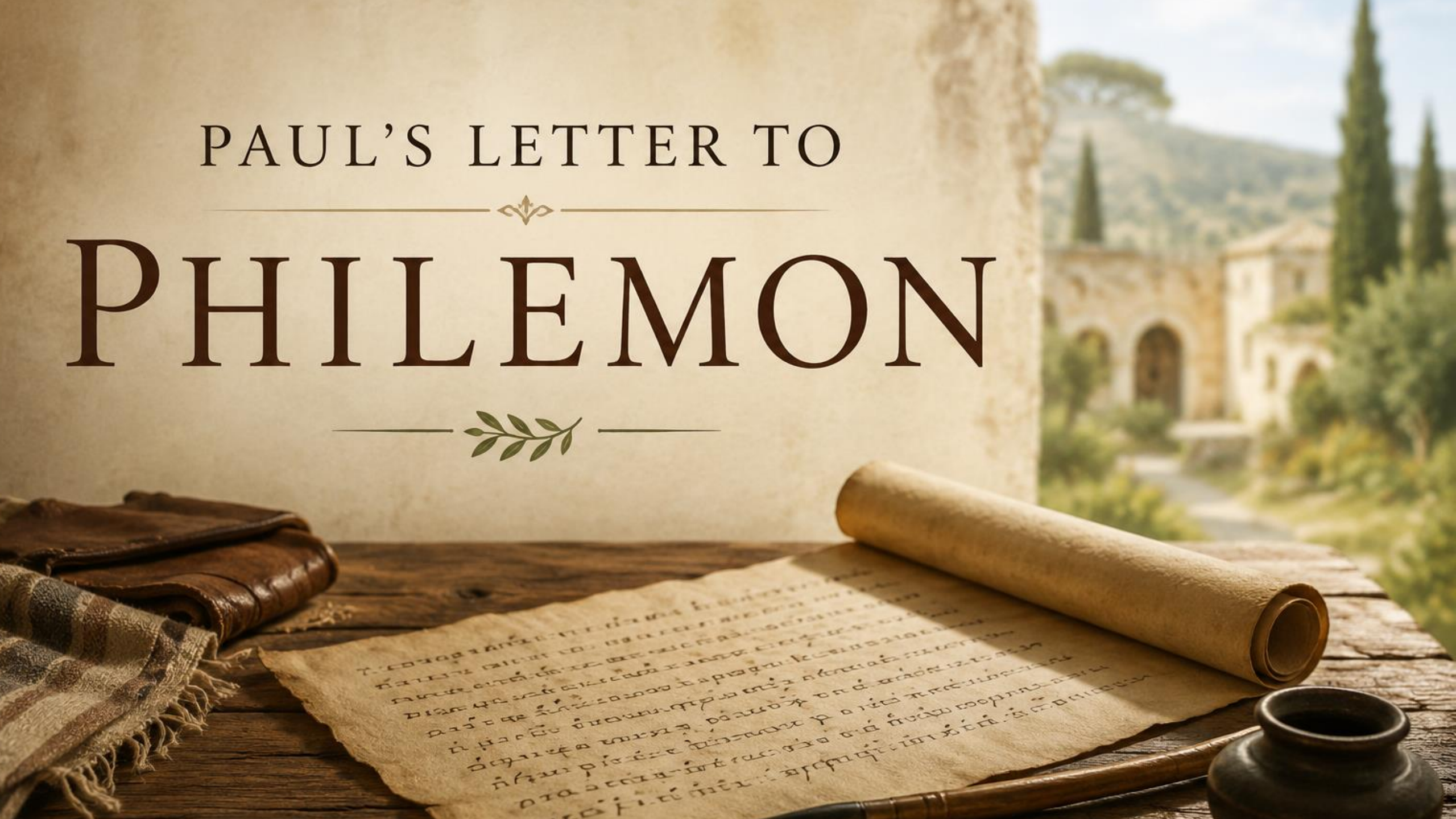
Schedule of Books in the Study:

- Galatians
- Ephesians
- Philippians
- Colossians
- 1 Thessalonians
- 2 Thessalonians
- 1 Timothy
- 2 Timothy
- Titus
- Philemon

PAUL'S LETTER TO



PHILEMON



1 Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved fellow worker 2 and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house: 3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philemon 1:1 – 3 (ESV)

Background to the Letter:

- Paul probably wrote from Rome during his first imprisonment in about 62 to 63 AD.
- Philemon was a member of the Colossae congregation. (Philemon 1:1 – 2; Colossians 4:17)

COLOSSAE

IN THE FIRST CENTURY

Colossae was a flourishing Phrygian city in the Lycus Valley of Asia Minor.

- Founded in the Hellenistic period (3rd century BC)
- Known for wool production, dyeing, and trade
- Destroyed by an earthquake around AD 60–61 and rebuilt nearby.

Colossians 1:1-2



Background to the Letter:

- Paul probably wrote from Rome during his first imprisonment in about 62 to 63 AD.
- Philemon was a member of the Colossae congregation. (Philemon 1:1 – 2; Colossians 4:17)
- Archippus seems likely to be the son of Philemon and may have served as a minister at the Colossae congregation. (Philemon 1:2; Colossian 1:7, 4:17)
- “Onesimus” means helpful.

Theme of the Letter:

**“Fellow Workers in
the Kingdom”
(Philemon 1:17)**

Key Words and Phrases:

- ▶ “Receive” is found 3 times.
- ▶ “Refresh(ed)” is found 2 times.
- ▶ “Brother” is found 4 times.
- ▶ “Love” or “Beloved” is found 5 times.

Outline of the Letter

- ▶ Greetings
- ▶ Philemon's Love and Faith
- ▶ Paul's Plea for Onesimus
- ▶ Closing Greetings

Breakdown of the Letter:

- ▶ Greetings

- ▶ Philemon 1:1 – 3

Breakdown of the Letter:

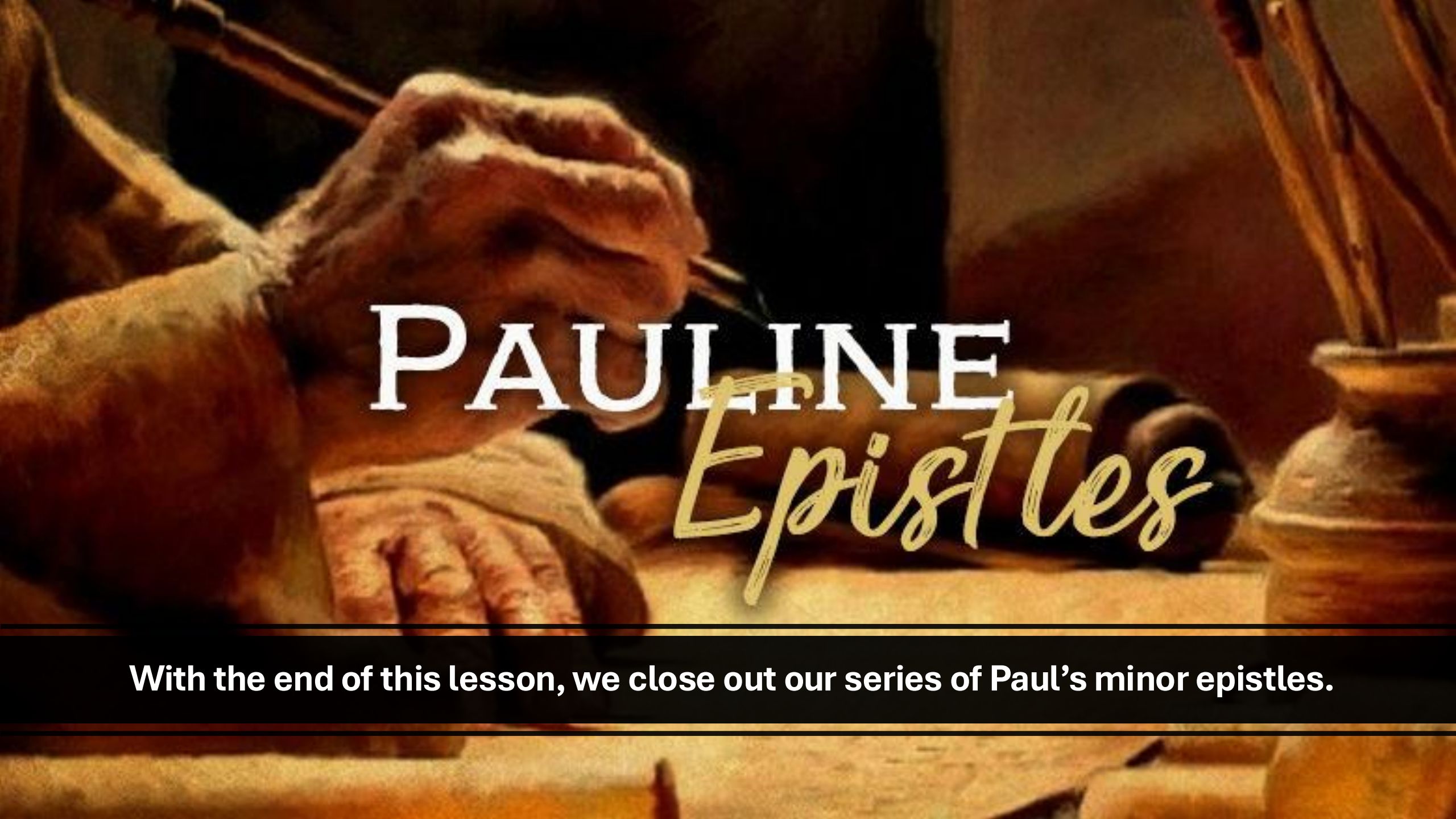
- ▶ Greetings
- ▶ Philemon's Love and Faith
 - ▶ Philemon 1:4 – 7

Breakdown of the Letter:

- ▶ Greetings
- ▶ Philemon's Love and Faith
- ▶ Paul's Plea for Onesimus
 - ▶ Philemon 1:8 – 16
 - ▶ Philemon 1:17 – 20
 - ▶ Philemon 1:21 – 22

Breakdown of the Letter:

- ▶ Greetings
- ▶ Philemon's Love and Faith
- ▶ Paul's Plea for Onesimus
- ▶ Closing Greetings
 - ▶ Philemon 1:23 – 25

The background of the slide is a classical painting depicting a person, likely a scholar or writer, seated at a desk. The person's hands are the central focus, with one hand holding a quill pen and the other resting on an open book. The lighting is warm and dramatic, highlighting the textures of the skin, the quill, and the paper. In the background, a vase containing several other quills is visible, along with some other objects on the desk, creating a sense of a dedicated workspace.

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With the end of this lesson, we close out our series of Paul's minor epistles.