

Philemon 1:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But withal prepare me also a lodging: for I trust that through your prayers I shall be given unto you.

Analysis

But withal prepare me also a lodging—ἄμα δὲ καὶ ἐτοίμαζέ μοι ξενίαν (hama de kai hetoimaze moi xenian, at the same time also prepare for me hospitality/lodging)—έτοιμάζω (hetoimazō, prepare/make ready), ξενία (xenia, guest room/hospitality). Paul announces planned visit—brilliant final leverage! Philemon must decide before Paul arrives to see the result personally. This prevents hiding behind written correspondence while making harsh decisions privately. Paul's presence will require Philemon to demonstrate his response face-to-face.

For I trust that through your prayers I shall be given unto you (έλπίζω γὰρ ὅτι διὰ τῶν προσευχῶν ὑμῶν χαρισθήσομαι ὑμῖν, elpizō gar hoti dia tōn proseuchōn hymōn charisthosomai hymin)—έλπιζω (elpizō, hope/trust/expect), διὰ τῶν προσευχῶν (dia tōn proseuchōn, through the prayers), χαρίζομαι (charizomai, be granted/given graciously). Divine passive χαρισθήσομαι (charisthosomai, I shall be granted) attributes release to God answering prayer. Paul confidently expects release, encouraging Colossian church's intercession.

Historical Context

Paul wrote from Roman imprisonment (Acts 28:30), expecting eventual release. Philippians 1:25, 2:24 express similar confidence. He was released circa 62 AD, ministered further, then re-arrested and martyred circa 64-67 AD under Nero. Whether Paul actually visited Colossae is unknown historically, but the announced

intention creates immediate accountability for Philemon—no hiding from the apostle's personal inspection of his response to this letter.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does knowing you'll face people personally affect your decisions about them in their absence?
2. Do you believe in prayer's efficacy to change circumstances, like Paul trusting prayer for his release?
3. What Christian hospitality are you preparing—both physical (guest rooms) and emotional (welcoming hearts)?

Interlinear Text

ἄμα	δὲ	καὶ	έτοίμαζέ	μοι	ξενίαν·	έλπίζω	γὰρ	ὅτι
withal	But	also	prepare	me	a lodging	I trust	for	that
G260	G1161	G2532	G2090	G3427	G3578	G1679	G1063	G3754
διὰ	τῶν	προσευχῶν	ὑμῶν	χαρισθήσομαι	ὑμῖν			
through	G3588	prayers	G4335	your	I shall be given	unto you		
G1223				G5216	G5483		G5213	

Additional Cross-References

2 Corinthians 1:11 (Prayer): Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.

Philippians 2:24 (Faith): But I trust in the Lord that I also myself shall come shortly.

Acts 28:23 (Parallel theme): And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.

James 5:16 (Prayer): Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Philippians 1:19 (Prayer): For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

2 John 1:12 (Faith): Having many things to write unto you, I would not write with paper and ink: but I trust to come unto you, and speak face to face, that our joy may be full.

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