The German Composite Bible

By

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The German Composite Bible is intended to make you think more deeply about the text by progressive comparison of literal versions. Starting with German, two English versions are progressively Compared in order to gain deeper insights into the text. The mind works differently when understanding one text, when comparing two texts and when looking at more than two. As a result, an over-all meaning is obtained, which I call a "composite" understanding. When you have reached this level of understanding, you will want to record your thoughts about what the text now says, what it means to you spiritually and how you plan to apply its meaning to your life. I hope that you will find this work a help in your studies and a blessing in understanding what God would like you to know.

German (Martin Luther)
The World English Bible
Young's Literal Translation

Philemon

- 1 Paulus, der Gebundene Christi Jesu, und Timotheus, der Bruder, Philemon, dem Lieben und unserm Gehilfen,
 - Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon, our beloved fellow worker,
 - Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timotheus the brother, to Philemon our beloved and fellow-worker,

2 und Appia, der Lieben, und Archippus, unserm Streitgenossen, und der Gemeinde in deinem Hause:

to the beloved Apphia, to Archippus, our fellow soldier, and to the assembly in your house:

and Apphia the beloved, and Archippus our fellow-soldier, and the assembly in thy house:

3 Gnade sei mit euch und Friede von Gott, unserm Vater, und dem HERRN Jesus Christus!

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

Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ!

- 4 Ich danke meinem Gott und gedenke dein allezeit in meinem Gebet, I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers, I give thanks to my God, always making mention of thee in my prayers,
- 5 nachdem ich höre von der Liebe und dem Glauben, welche du hast an den HERRN Jesus und gegen alle Heiligen,

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

hearing of thy love and faith that thou hast unto the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints,

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Literal Spiritual Practical Meaning

6 daß der Glaube, den wir miteinander haben, in dir kräftig werde durch Erkenntnis alles des Guten, das ihr habt in Christo Jesu.

that the fellowship of your faith may become effective, in the knowledge of every good thing which is in us, in Christ Jesus.

that the fellowship of thy faith may become working in the full knowledge of every good thing that [is] in you toward Christ Jesus;

7 Wir haben aber große Freude und Trost an deiner Liebe; denn die Herzen der Heiligen

sind erquickt durch dich, lieber Bruder.

For we have much joy and comfort in your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, brother.

for we have much joy and comfort in thy love, because the bowels of the saints have been refreshed through thee, brother.

8 Darum, wiewohl ich habe große Freudigkeit in Christo, dir zu gebieten, was dir ziemt,

Therefore, though I have all boldness in Christ to command you that which is appropriate,

Wherefore, having in Christ much boldness to command thee that which is fit --

9 so will ich doch um der Liebe willen nur vermahnen, der ich ein solcher bin, nämlich ein alter Paulus, nun aber auch ein Gebundener Jesu Christi.

yet for love`s sake I rather beg, being such a one as Paul, the aged, and now a prisoner also of Christ Jesus.

because of the love I rather entreat, being such an one as Paul the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ;

10 So ermahne ich dich um meines Sohnes willen, Onesimus, den ich gezeugt habe in meinen Banden,

I beg you for my child, whom I have fathered in my bonds, Onesimus,
I entreat thee concerning my child -- whom I did beget in my bonds -- Onesimus,

11 welcher weiland dir unnütz, nun aber dir und mir wohl nütze ist; den habe ich wiedergesandt.

who once was useless to you, but now is useful to you and to me; who once was to thee unprofitable, and now is profitable to me and to thee,

12 Du aber wollest ihn, das ist mein eigen Herz, annehmen.

I am sending him back. You therefore receive him, that is, my own heart, whom I did send again, and thou him (that is, my own bowels) receive,

13 Denn ich wollte ihn bei mir behalten, daß er mir an deiner Statt diente in den Banden des Evangeliums;

whom I wanted to keep with me, that in your behalf he might minister to me in the bonds of the gospel.

whom I did wish to retain to myself, that in thy behalf he might minister to me in the bonds of the good news,

14 aber ohne deinen Willen wollte ich nichts tun, auf daß dein Gutes nicht wäre genötigt, sondern freiwillig.

But I was willing to do nothing without your consent, that your goodness would not be as of necessity, but of free will.

and apart from thy mind I willed to do nothing, that as of necessity thy good deed may not be, but of willingness,

15 Vielleicht aber ist er darum eine Zeitlang von dir gekommen, daß du ihn ewig wieder hättest,

For perhaps he was therefore separated from you for a while, that you would have him forever,

for perhaps because of this he did depart for an hour, that age-duringly thou mayest have him,

16 nun nicht mehr als einen Knecht, sondern mehr denn einen Knecht, als einen lieben Bruder, sonderlich mir, wie viel mehr aber dir, beides, nach dem Fleisch und in dem HERRN.

no longer as a slave, but more than a slave, a beloved brother, specially to me, but how much rather to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

no more as a servant, but above a servant -- a brother beloved, especially to me, and how much more to thee, both in the flesh and in the Lord!

17 So du nun mich hältst für deinen Genossen, so wollest du ihn als mich selbst annehmen.

If then you count me a partner, receive him as you would receive me. If, then, with me thou hast fellowship, receive him as me,

18 So er aber dir etwas Schaden getan hat oder schuldig ist, das rechne mir zu.

But if he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, put that to my account.

and if he did hurt to thee, or doth owe anything, this to me be reckoning;

<u>Literal Spiritual Practical Meaning</u>

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- 19 Ich, Paulus, habe es geschrieben mit meiner Hand: Ich will's bezahlen. Ich schweige, daß du dich selbst mir schuldig bist.
 - I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it (not to mention to you that you owe to me even your own self besides).
 - I, Paul did write with my hand, I -- I will repay; that I may not say that also thyself, besides, to me thou dost owe.
- 20 Ja, lieber Bruder, gönne mir, daß ich mich an dir ergötze in dem HERRN; erquicke mein Herz in dem HERRN.

Yes, brother, let me have joy from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in the Lord. Yes, brother, may I have profit of thee in the Lord; refresh my bowels in the Lord;

- 21 Ich habe aus Zuversicht deines Gehorsams dir geschrieben; und ich weiß, du wirst mehr tun, denn ich sage.
 - Having confidence in your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even beyond what I say.
 - having been confident in thy obedience I did write to thee, having known that also above what I may say thou wilt do;
- 22 Daneben bereite mir die Herberge; denn ich hoffe, daß ich durch euer Gebet euch geschenkt werde.

Also, prepare a guest room for me, for I hope that through your prayers I will be restored to you.

and at the same time also prepare for me a lodging, for I hope that through your prayers I shall be granted to you.

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- 23 Es grüßt dich Epaphras, mein Mitgefangener in Christo Jesu, Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you, Salute thee doth Epaphras, (my fellow-captive in Christ Jesus,)
- 24 Markus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lukas, meine Gehilfen. as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers. Markus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lukas, my fellow-workmen!
- 25 Die Gnade unsers HERRN Jesu Christi sei mit eurem Geist! Amen.

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

 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ [is] with your spirit! Amen.