

-c..c The sequence of thought here should be observed. Paul has the confidence to command that which is fitting to Philemon. But his realm of command (which he defers) is not to tell Philemon what to do -- or to suggest that he has that right -- but to commend to him that which is proper to do. It is "that which is fitting" that receives the thrust of Paul's command. Philemon receives this. The use of the dative and accusative is a good example of the Direct object and indirect object used contiguously.

Resultant Reading:

Wherefore while having great confidence in Christ to command for you that which is fitting....

Added data not indicated in notes.

-The use of the participle "having" is temporal. In the thought sequence it indicates the alternative that will be mentioned in the following verse. "While I have great confidence to commend to you that which is fitting, on account of love I prefer rather to exhort." (paraphrase)