

9. διὰ τὴν ἀγάπην ^αμᾶλλον ^απαρακαλῶ ^①
 τοιοῦτος ὢν ὡς Παῦλος ^βπρεσβύτερος, ^β
 νυνὶ δὲ καὶ δεσμὸς Χριστοῦ Ἰησοῦ, ^ε

-1. This term indicates either exhorting or comforting.

The two areas of meaning are actually close in that proper exhortation is comforting in a positive manner. An interesting contrast is presented to Philemon in that the one who has great confidence that he could command that which is fitting prefers to exhort or encourage

-a..a A comparative term introduces the very first of several interesting comparisons and contrasts. "I have confidence to command, but rather, because of love, I exhort." The thoughts however and not the clauses constitute the comparisons in this case.

-b..b Another appositive use of a noun in the nominative case identifying Paul as an aged or elderly one. (see v. 1)

-c..c "...as one who is an aged man but also at this very moment a bound man of Jesus Christ." The adverb of time seems to make it plain that Paul refers to his physical chains as he had always been the slave of Christ but at this present moment he is in bonds for a particular circumstance. (see v. 1)

Resultant Reading:

...rather on account of love I exhort (that which is fitting) as such an one as I, Paul, being an elderly man am now also at this present time one in bonds for Jesus Christ,