

11. τὸν ποτέ σοι ἀχρηστον<sup>①</sup> νυνὶ δὲ καὶ  
 σοὶ καὶ ἐμοὶ<sup>←α</sup> εὐχρηστον<sup>②</sup>,

-1. The compound simply signifies "not fit for use" or "not good for use". In time past the servant had this infamous reputation. He was, as we say today, "good for nothing."

-2. It may be suggested that the Apostle is making a play on words by his selection of language. The term employed here means "profitable" and the name Onesimus has the same meaning being derived from a verb meaning "to be useful". (see v. 20) Paul says that he who was called useful but was really not fit for use is now become very useful. He originally belied the indication of his name but now he excels it.

-a..a The dative of advantage and/or disadvantage illumines the role of Onesims. "He was one of no advantage to you but now is profitable and of advantage to you and to me." This is used along with the comparison suggested by two adverbs of time. "Once--but now." The progression of time is seen by adverbs used with the dative as suggested. They are not in this sequence used with the accusative in any special function. The accusative case defines the character of Onesimus simply because the terms are in apposition with the preceeding relative, the subject of a dependent clause but the object of the verb "beget".

Resultant Reading:

...the one who was once unprofitable to you but who is now profitable not only to you but also to me.....