

13. ^aδὲν ^aἐγὼ ἐβουλόμην πρὸς ἑμαυτὸν
^bκατέχειν, ^bἵνα ^cὑπὲρ τοῦ ^cμου διακονῆ ^dἐν
 τοῖς δεσμοῖς ^dτοῦ εὐαγγελίου,

-1. Minister in this sense is to serve or to relieve the necessities of one nearby. The ministry of Onesimus would be waiting on and serving the Apostle day by day. In so doing he would take the place of Philemon in love. This emphasizes the meaning of ministry--to perform a place of service in love.

-a..a The use of the relative pronoun in these verses is consistent and in accord with the classical tradition. It connects each clause with the one named Onesimus. In a sense these are explanatory clauses in the indicative united into a group of kindred thoughts by the relative.

-b..b An infinitive of purpose is coupled with the accusative to indicate intent. "Whom I desired to keep for my own purposes or by my own purpose," says the Apostle, "is the one whom I have sent to you." This agrees in thought and grammatical expression with the following *ἵνα* clause of purpose.

-c..c The ablative of separation is seen here as a means of expressing that purpose which Paul desired of Philemon. The thought is: "So that in your stead he might serve me." In other words, "apart from you and in your place he might serve me."

-d..d The association of bonds suggests that this is an instrumental of association usage. The purpose is "that he might serve me in our association in these bonds." The following