

have such slain if they so desired and a man who hazarded his life by running away seldom risked it by permitting himself to be caught and returned.

In the case of the Apostle, he knowing the heart of Philemon, there was no such matter of returning a slave for such treatment. Nevertheless we can understand his concern and expression of love for the one who has been converted by him. A returned slave, in the legal sense, had no constitutional rights or privileges. These he forfeited when he ran away.