Exploring Philemon: Freedom, Brotherhood, and Partnership in the New Society

Roy R. Jeal

A new, sociorhetorical interpretation of the Letter to Philemon

Exploring Philemon shows how this letter entered the world of the ancient Mediterranean and the early church with a dramatic and powerful rhetorical force by analyzing the range of textures interwoven with each other to produce a profound effect on an early Christian (Philemon) and on the church that met in his home. It demonstrates that many striking and subtle features work together to present a rhetorical argument that the new Christian society must be one of freedom, brotherhood, and partnership not just for the powerful, but for all.

Features:
- An analysis of the visual imagery of the letter
- Application of up-to-date rhetorical, sensory-aesthetic, and intertextual interpretative methods
- Use of Social and cultural, ideological, and theological strategies

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