

Philemon 17-21

Philemon: Grace in Action

Western State Up North Grace Bible Conference

October 23, 2021



Surety

SU'RETY, *noun* Certainty; indubitableness.

5. In law, one that is bound with and for another; one who enters into a bond or recognizance to answer for another's appearance in court, or for his payment of a debt or for the performance of some act, and who, in case of the principal debtor's failure, is compellable to pay the debt or damages; a bondsman; a bail.

He that is *surety* for a stranger, shall smart for it. [Proverbs 11:15](#).

Thy servant became *surety* for the lad to my father. [Genesis 44:32](#).

<http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/surety>

Surety

“One who at the request of another, and for the purpose of securing to him a benefit, becomes responsible for the performance by the latter of some act in favor of a third person . . . [] A person who is primarily liable for payment of debt or performance of obligation of another.”

Surety, Black's Law Dictionary, (6th ed. 1991)

Statute of Frauds (1677) requires surety agreements to be in writing

“As mentioned, the statute of frauds refers to the requirement that certain kinds of contracts be “memorialized” (i.e., written down) in a signed document that clearly outlines the agreement. Traditionally, the statute of frauds requires a signed writing for marriage contracts, prenuptial agreements, contracts that cannot be completely performed within one year, contracts transferring rights to land, contracts by the executor of a will to pay a debt with his/her own money, contracts for the sale of goods in excess of \$500, or surety agreements. Law students often remember these categories using the mnemonic device “MY LEGS” (Marriage, Year, Land, Executor, Goods, Surety).”

What does Acts 25:16 remind you of in US law?

Act 25:16 KJV - To whom I answered, It is not the manner of the Romans to deliver any man to die, before that he which is accused have the accusers face to face, and have licence to answer for himself concerning the crime laid against him.

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Sixth Amendment Confrontation Clause Seems Derived from Roman Law

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U.S. Constitution, Sixth Amendment. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; **to be confronted with the witnesses against him**; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.

Observations

- Acts 25:16 is an example of a principle of Roman law that has subsequently been incorporated into English and/or American law
- There are other examples like this in the scriptures