

Letter 38: 17 March 1520, Basel, Capito to Desiderius Erasmus

Printed in Allen IV, pp. 210-212, #1083 and CWE 7, Ep. 1083.

[*Summary*]: Capito advises Erasmus to abandon the controversy with Lee. Lee's polemic will carry no weight and will not damage Erasmus' reputation. He notes that Lee has attempted to gain favour with him (see below Ep. 54) and other German humanists but was unsuccessful in doing so. Hutten, Oecolampadius, and Zasius have expressed their displeasure with Lee's book. Capito feels that he cannot remain silent in this controversy, but will approach the subject in moderate terms. Capito will publish nothing until it has been approved by Rhenanus to avoid publishing anything too extreme.