

Letter 64: 6 December 1520, Louvain, Desiderius Erasmus to Capito

Printed in Allen IV, pp. 394-396, #1165 and CWE 8, Ep. 1165.

[*Summary*]: The popularity of the Reformation in the Low Countries is apparent by the people's rejection of the papal bull *Exsurge Domine*. This is also evident in the ill treatment of Erasmus' critic Vincentius Theoderici by the people at Dordrecht. Erasmus denies Vincentius' accusation that he incited the people. The Louvain theologians Masson and Turnhout dare not publish their works against Luther. He has been sent a pamphlet criticizing his New Testament edition. Erasmus instructs Capito to find the author of an anonymous dialogue mentioning Cardinal Wolsey and to tell him to suppress the piece. The situation in Louvain is difficult. If Wilhelm Nesen publishes his *Vita S. Nicolai*, he must not do it anonymously and he must not mention Dorp. The theologians have been silently pressuring Erasmus, thinking that only he could vanquish Luther. Erasmus emphatically rejects the notion. He asks Capito to inform him of Albert of Brandenburg's attitude towards him. He sends greetings to Ludovicus Carinus and Hartmann von Hallwyl.