

Letter 103: 4 August 1521, Halle, Capito to Ulrich Zwingli

Printed in *Zwingli's Briefwechsel*, eds. E. Egli et al (Leipzig 1911-1935), vol. I, pp. 465-466, #185.

[*Summary*]: Given the growing disturbances, Capito is pleased that Zwingli is acting in a truly Christian manner in the religious dispute. He speaks favourably of Albert of Brandenburg for urging people not to clamour against Luther. Even when a provincial of the Friars Minor sought permission from Albert to preach against Luther, Albert refused the request in order not to exacerbate matters. Instead he advised the provincial to concentrate on preaching the gospel truth, without slandering others. Indeed Albert will listen only to preachers who foster a sincere image of Christ. Luther's followers are arguing amongst themselves and introducing a new kind of sophistry. The nobility is beginning to fear the growing civil unrest in their dominions. Capito encourages Zwingli to retain his moderate stance. Though Capito is no longer court preacher, the growing Reformation dispute consumes much of his time. He believes that the church ought to be reformed and not overthrown. He wishes he could speak with Zwingli in person.