

Letter 105: 27 August 1521, Neumarkt, Martin Bucer to Capito

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[*Summary*]: Bucer complains about the court of Frederick Count Palatine, which is dominated by drunken clergymen opposed to the gospel and learning. He has found only one priest that has avoided the depravity of the courtiers who influence both the priests and the people of the area. The Edict of Worms has not been published yet in Neumarkt. More learned people are embracing the gospel. Influenced by the Dominicans, Frederick believes that it is wicked for the laity to interpret and preach the gospel. The excerpt on confession from Erasmus' *Apologia qua respondet invectivis Eduardi Lei* is being circulated in a German translation, adding to the impression that Erasmus supports Luther's teaching. Bucer thinks that Erasmus' arguments are very effective. He hopes to see Capito in Nürnberg, and if not, to receive news about Erasmus in writing. He expects to remain in Nürnberg with the count. After their return, Bucer will seek other employment. He regrets having left Franz von Sickingen, who offered him a congenial place to lie low. He does not torment himself with self-pity, though, and realizes that his current position is better than his previous one as a monk. He asks Capito to send his regards to Jakob Truchsess.