

Letter 237a: 13 February 1525, Strasbourg, The Preachers to the Government in Ensisheim

A summary of this letter is included in CorrBucer 2, pp. 14-16, Ep. 91. The full text is printed in BDS 2, pp. 432-460.

[*Summary*]: The preachers protest being labelled “Lutherans” [cf. above, Ep. 237 headnote]. The teaching of Luther is nothing but Christian teaching. They defend their “innovations” (appointment by magistrate or parish; marriage; leaving the monastery; communion in two kinds; church service in German; abolition of singing, lighting of candles, private masses, adoration of saints; removal of images) as the restoration of practices in conformity with the gospel. They enclose Capito’s *Was man halten soll...* [cf. above Ep. 224] to explain their teaching concerning the Eucharist and his pamphlet *Das die pfaffheit...* [cf. above Ep. 230] to justify the requirement that clerics take out citizenship. They furthermore enclose Bucer’s *Grund und Ursach* [cf. above Ep. 235] to show that they have always respected the authority of the secular government.