

Letter 299: 2 August 1526, Strasbourg, Capito to the Reader

Preface to Capito's *Epistola ... Capitonis ad Zuinglium* (Strasbourg: W. Köpfel, 1526), ff. [A1v]-A3r. The letter is printed in *CorrBucer*, vol. 3, pp. 249-50, Appendix III. For the context, see above, Ep. 290 headnote.

[*Summary*]: Capito explains that at the request of [Wolfgang] Köpfel, he asked Zwingli to report about the conclusion of the Disputation of Baden (see above, Ep. 290). Capito had been informed that Johannes Fabri was going to spread rumours and slander the reformers at a meeting of the Swiss [*Tagessatzung* 25-28 June 1526], which was to take place at the conclusion of the disputation. In the letter, Capito warned Zwingli about Fabri's plan and related news in confidence, as was customary among friends. The courier was intercepted near Baden and was forced to relinquish all the letters he had in hand, including the letter to Zwingli as well as letters from [Guillaume] Farel and [Johannes] Oecolampadius. Fabri then produced a tendentious German translation of the letters and had them published along with his own glosses. Since the publication was intended to malign Capito, he decided to publish the Latin original of the letter with his own glosses, so that the reader might recognize his innocence (see above, Ep. 290). He obtained a copy of the letter from the Swiss Confederates, who were convening at Lucerne, and added two letters from the Strasbourg reformers, in which they challenged Fabri to a debate (see above, Epp. 286-7). Fabri rejected their challenge (see above, Ep. 287a).