

Letter 323: 3 February 1527, Sélestat, Johannes Sapidus to Capito and Martin Bucer

Printed in *CorrBucer* 3, pp. 1-3, Ep. 147. For Sapidus see below, Ep 324 headnote.

[*Summary*]: Sapidus is indignant about a letter he received from Bucer [no longer extant], in which he reproached him for his relationship with a rich woman, a citizen of Strasbourg. He would like to set the record straight. Some days earlier, Sapidus encountered the woman, dressed in gold and purple, going to a wedding. After the customary exchange of greetings, she wished him good luck in his new teaching position [cf. below, Ep. 324 headnote] and asked the date of his departure for Strasbourg. Sapidus informed her that he was due to leave the next day. She then asked him to meet her for dinner, since she wanted to entrust him with a message. He could not very well deny her request. At the meeting she handed him a letter containing a sum of money, to be sent from Sélestat to Colmar. She furthermore asked Sapidus to make some purchases for her if convenient. Finally, she asked him to dine with her, which he could not decline without seeming impolite. At dinner nothing indecent was said or done. Afterwards, he returned home.

Sapidus vows that he has committed no wrong. He has no plans to marry the woman, nor would she deign to marry him. He is prepared to marry, but not under duress. His future bride must be a woman of good character and intelligence matching his own.

Sapidus was saddened, not only by Bucer's letter, but also on account of his father-in-law's [Hans Knobloch] poor health and his troublesome family. He asks Bucer to share this letter with Capito. He will return from Sélestat in three days.