

Letter 368: 15 October 1528, Basel, Johannes Oecolampadius to Capito

Printed in BrOek 2, pp. 237-38, Ep. 607.

[*Summary*]: Although the principal task of the preachers is spiritual, they may be excused for taking an interest in secular affairs as well. He therefore raised the question (on Zwingli's initiative) why the Strasbourger were not seeking an alliance with Zurich. Constance, St. Gallen and Mulhouse have already joined them, and Bern has moved away from accepting pensions [from the French]. He wonders how much influence the incoming bishop of Constance, Balthasar Mercklin, will have [for his negotiations with Strasbourg, see above, Ep. 363a]. Rumour has it that he entered into negotiations with Jacob Sturm. He hopes Capito will intercede. He may want to consult by letter with Zwingli, who is staying in Basel at the time. He sends his greetings to Bucer and Bonifacius Wolfhart. Damianus Hoeman [Damianus Irmi?] has left for [Austria?] and will not return to Venice before Easter. He has no other contacts and therefore cannot oblige Capito's request to obtain a biblical commentary. The bearer of the letter, a displaced person, wishes to work for his living. He asks Capito to assist him in finding work. He sends Wolfhart a cap and thanks him for helping another exile whom Oecolampadius recently recommended.