

Letter 386: 19 April 1529, [Strasbourg], Capito to Ulrich Zwingli

Printed in ZwBr 4, pp. 104-107, Ep. 835.

[*Summary*]: It is difficult to find good preachers. Zurich has only the one Zwingli. Capito regards it as a compliment that Zwingli has proposed him as preacher for Memmingen, but he feels that he owes it to his congregation to remain with them. They will soon send Jacob Otter, who may serve in Solothurn or in Memmingen. [Johann] Mantel, who is of advanced age, will make a good assistant. There are many capable men in Strasbourg, but he hesitates to recommend them for such a challenging position. For Memmingen, he would like someone who can assist, but is not inferior to, Simprecht Schenk. He is glad to hear that Johann Heinrich Winkeli, [formerly] prefect of Dornach, has embraced the Reformation. He has no serious criticism of Zwingli's commentary on Isaiah [cf. above, Ep. 382], although he differs with him in a few points. "But words do not matter so much as long as each man attempts to observe the rule of the Spirit." He has dined with Johann Caspar von Bubenhofen, a worthy man, who will report to Zwingli what cannot safely be entrusted to a letter. Capito hopes for a good outcome [of Bubenhofen's lengthy lawsuit now before the courts]. Zwingli will hear the rest of the news from Basel. He refers in coded language to the difficulties of the Basel church.