

Letter 413: [ca. 20 June 1530, Strasbourg, Capito] to Ulrich Zwingli

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[*Summary*]: Philip [unidentified], whom Bucer and Capito jointly recommended, has returned and relies on their help. He relinquished his Catholic benefice and married on their recommendation and must now look for a means of making a living. He is destitute and, on the advice of Melchior [Macrinus?], wants to travel to Zurich. He has asked Bucer for a letter of recommendation, but is now worried because Bucer hinted that he was an Anabaptist sympathizer. Capito would not want to recommend any man who is seditious. He admits that he has sometimes been wrong in his judgment of people. He and Bucer are preparing to depart for [the Diet in] Augsburg. He believes he will be of use there because of his former connections with courtiers. He is preparing for the journey by reading Luther's writings, an unpleasant task. He is at present reading Luther's [*Grosses Bekenntnis vom Abendmahl* of 1528]. Luther has also written against the bishops [*Vermanung an die geistlichen, versamlet auff dem Reichstag zu Augsburg*, Wittenberg, 1530], but the sale of this book has been prohibited by the Augsburg city council. Luther is indignant because the Strasbourgers dared to reply to his arrogant writings. No doubt, Luther's writings will be translated into Latin and French. Capito is pleased that Zwingli approves of Karlstadt. Valentin [Ickelsamer] is staying at Capito's house. He has been ousted on the initiative of the Lutherans [Friedrich Myconius and Justus Menius, on suspicion of being a supporter of Karlstadt] and was unable to obtain an audience with Luther, even though Justus Jonas and [Georgius] Spalatinus spoke on his behalf. Luther's tyranny has increased in the wake of the Marburg Colloquy [of 1529]. Philip of Hesse attended the sermons of Michael Cellarius ("one of ours") in Augsburg and ignored Johann Agricola von Eisleben. Bucer will reply to Leo [Jud].