

Letter 420: 22 July [1530], Augsburg, Capito and Martin Bucer to Ulrich Zwingli

Printed in CorrBucer 4, pp. 160-64, Ep. 319 and ZwBw 5, pp. 37-41, Ep. 1068.

[*Summary*]: The emperor is pressuring the electors George of Brandenburg and John of Saxony to revert to the Catholic faith. They have not yielded. He has not called in [Philip of Hesse], perhaps because the earlier interview [cf. above, Ep. 414] made him despair of success. The *Confutatio confessionis Augustanae* has been presented. The Catholic princes are afraid of war and are looking for common ground. They may do nothing about married priests, allow communion in two kinds, and declare a moratorium on the mass until a general council can be called, but the emperor will object. He is prepared to go to war against the “heretics” with the financial help of Henry VIII. Capito and Bucer have gone public and presented the *Confessio Tetrapolitana*. They have talked with Brenz. They have not been able to arrange a personal meeting with Melancthon. They fear they will be unsuccessful in their efforts to present their views to the rulers [of Saxony, Brandenburg, and Lüneburg] who support Luther. Philip of Hesse is on their side. They also talked with two courtiers of Albert of Brandenburg, archbishop of Mainz: [Caspar von Westhausen and Michael Vehe], but found them intransigent. Zwingli’s [*Fidei ratio*] has offended some people.