

Letter 427: 27 September 1530, Strasbourg, Capito to Ulrich Zwingli

Printed in ZwBw 5, pp. 161-63, Ep. 1107.

[*Summary*]: The enclosed letter [below, Ep. 427a] will inform Zwingli of the affairs in Augsburg. The imperial party is planning to make war on Strasbourg. Capito is glad that the Lutherans are now showing more fairness toward them. Bucer left Augsburg on 19 September to meet with Luther [in Coburg] – he hopes, with good results. In an earlier letter, Bucer vowed to fight for the truth and convince Luther of the legitimacy of their position. Capito is keeping up his spirits although conditions in Strasbourg are difficult: the harvest was poor and the granaries are empty. They are being put under pressure by speculators. The *episcopales* [the Catholic canons?] refuse to come before the city's courts. He writes this in confidence. Erasmus has aggravated matters for them with his [*Responsio ad epistolam apologeticam*, Freiburg, 1530] in reply to Bucer's [*Epistola apologetica*, Strasbourg 1530; cf. above, Ep. 426]. He expects the return of the delegates from Augsburg.⁸ On their return he hopes the alliance with [Philip of Hesse] will be concluded. He exhorts Zwingli to do everything possible to persuade the Swiss towns to maintain concord. Their enemies rejoice at the dissension among the reformers. He asks Zwingli to send him “songs, even those composed for the lute.”

⁸ Matthis Pfarrer left at the beginning of November; Jacob Sturm travelled on to Schmalkald and Nürnberg and returned only at the end of the year.