

Letter 446: 16 August 1531, [Strasbourg], Capito to Ulrich Zwingli

Printed in ZwBw 5, pp. 573-75, Ep. 1261.

[*Summary*]: He describes negotiations to gain support for Ferdinand's election preceding the Diet [then set for September at Speyer, but moved to Regensburg]. The emperor has commissioned Joachim I of Brandenburg to appease Albert of Prussia and has sent Wilhelm [Capito calls him "Philip"] of Nassau to talk to the Elector John of Saxony and persuade him to rescind his alliance with Philip of Hesse. Wilhelm III von Neuenahr, the brother of [Hermann von Neuenahr] has been sent to the court of Hesse by the emperor. The official agenda of the Diet is religious peace, but the real agenda is the confirmation of Ferdinand and the increase of papal power. The situation is difficult for Strasbourg. He advises Zwingli either to come to an agreement with the Fünf Orte or to declare war openly. He will show Zwingli's letter [not extant] to [Jacob] Sturm. Bucer sends his greetings. Strasbourg has not yet been invited formally to attend the Diet.