

Letter 450: 17 September [1531], Basel, Johannes Oecolampadius to Capito

Printed in BrOek 2, pp. 681-83, Ep. 932.

[*Summary*]: Oecolampadius can see that Capito is offended. He meant well and merely wrote to warn Capito that his reputation was at risk. There was no need to compare him with Luther, Erasmus, or Melancthon, who have not reciprocated Capito's friendly feelings. Oecolampadius, by contrast, is a constant friend. Capito has satisfied him concerning his beliefs and his character. Oecolampadius is worried only about the people [i.e. the Anabaptists and their sympathizers] Capito receives into his home. Capito needs to decide: if he approves of the teachings of the reformers, he must not consort with their opponents. Capito's tolerance may turn out to be the cause of dissension rather than peace, which he desires. He hopes that Capito will relieve his anxiety without reproaching him for taking the liberty of admonishing him.