

Letter 460b: 12 January 1532, [Strasbourg], The Strasbourg Preachers to the City Council of Strasbourg

Printed in CorrBucer 7:191–94, Ep. 541. Even though Capito was in Bern at the time this letter was written (see below, Ep. 461 headnote), we have decided to include a summary of this letter, since it was written on behalf of the Strasbourg preachers.

[*Summary*]: Fourteen days earlier, Pilgram [Marpeck] asked the preachers to justify in writing their position on infant baptism [see CorrBucer 7, Ep. 544]. After having read their submission, he drew up a response, with the agreement of the preachers, containing opposing articles.¹ He submitted the response to the preachers on 10 January, with the request to discuss the articles with them in the presence of one *Ammeister* or the whole committee of six [*Ammeisters*]. The preachers gave him the choice of audience, but they themselves wanted one or two church wardens (*Kirchspielpfleger*)² to attend. Marpeck asked them to approach the city about this matter – hence this letter to the council from the preachers. They ask the council to give authorization as soon as possible, because Marpeck, [whose expulsion from Strasbourg has already been decided], is pressed for time.

¹ Marpeck's Confession of Faith is printed in QGT 7:416–519, no. 302. For an English translation, see *The Writings of Pilgram Marpeck*, trans. and ed. by William Klassen and Walter Klaassen (Kitchener, Ontario, 1978), pp. 107–57.

² After an ordinance from the Strasbourg city council on 30 October 1531, each of the seven Strasbourg churches received three church wardens (*Kirchspielpfleger*). The power of the twenty-one wardens was limited to the supervision of doctrinal conformity and discipline of the church ministers.