

Letter 468: 5 March 1532, Augsburg, Capito to Heinrich Bullinger

Printed in HBBW 2:66–67, Ep. 72.

[*Summary*]: Capito hopes that rumours of a war against the Five Catholic Cantons are false. He asks for news about efforts to restore friendship between Zurich and Bern and hopes that they will be fruitful. War is ruinous for both parties. He was pleased to see the high standard of education and piety in Zurich. He recognizes that Bullinger has taken on a demanding task, being responsible for the well-being of the church in Zurich. He must be careful to ensure that “the city council does neither too much nor too little in matters that concern the kingdom of Christ.” Capito would like to know whether the council has released the clergy from military duty. He sees no place for them in battle. Their duty is to console and care for widows and orphans. The battlefield offers no opportunities for spiritual growth. At home they might encourage penitence. They must exercise the arts of peace, not learn the stratagems of war. He sends greetings to all friends in Zurich.