

Letter 15: 19 April 1518, Basel, Capito to the Reader

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[*Summary*]: This is the preface to Oecolampadius' *De risu paschali* (Basel, 1518). Capito advises Oecolampadius not to be discouraged by criticism [see Ep. 14]. He praises Oecolampadius for not being theatrical or scurrilous in his sermons and for not succumbing to the indecent humour of idle women. He warns the reader not to use popular taste as a standard for evaluating the quality of a sermon. Oecolampadius preaches sincerely and eloquently, and without pretence. Capito asks the reader to peruse his book carefully and not to give preference to a theatrical over a good preacher.