

the moste vnderstande not the worde, as they that vnderstand no Latine, or not very well, neede dryueth¹¹ me to shewe bothe what it is, and also the meanyng of the worde. Interim is a booke, whiche was at the Emperoures Maiesties commaundement, prynted and put forth about the begynnyng of June this yere of our Sauours birthe, 1548,¹² wherein is commaunded that al
5 the Cities¹³ in Dutchlande that haue receaued the worde of God and made a chaunge of Ceremonyes accordyng to the word, shal reforme their Churches agayne and turne to the old popishe ordinaunces, as a dog dothe to that he hathe spued out, or a washen swyne to the myre.¹⁴

[A 4r:] Thus haue ye¹⁵ harde what it is. Now heare what the worde signifyeth
10 or betokeneth:

Interim is as much to saye, as 'in the meane season', or, 'in the meane while'. And therefore haue they christened the childe and geuen him this name, because they wyll that we kepe all the thynges commaunded and contayned
15 in that booke, in the meane while from this highedutche parlament holden at Außburg¹⁶ till there be a generall councell holden. There they thynke, (but God sitteth aboue in heauen, and thynketh happily otherwyse)¹⁷ to make the matter worsse. For because it had been an hastye worcke to haue chaunged all thynges at once, they of their great (I had almoste sayed) greuouse¹⁸ and
20 merciless mercy haue borne with vs in two thynges, that is to saye, in the Maryage of priests, and receiuing of [A 4v:] the communion in both the kindes. But how long? Forsoth Interim, that is, in the mean while till the Generall Councell come. And thynke then to beare no longer with vs, no nor with Christe himselfe, for then they thynke to be so strong, that neyther
25 Christe himselfe nor all that wyll abyde by hym, shall be able to withstande them. This is the meanyng of the worde in Englyshe.

Unto this Interim and the meaning thereof ^ahathe thaboue^a named Phil. Melancthon answered, and written this present treatise, and sheweth to what thinges a christen man may agre, and whiche thynges may be chaunged, and
30 whiche not; in which treatise the reader shall well perceauie, that he nether hath denied the trueth that he hathe thus long taught and acknowledged, nor yet thinketh to doe: whiche vertu and high gyfte [A 5r:] of God, the almighti father of our lord Jesus Christ increase in him and all the christen to the

^{a-a} = hathe the above.

¹¹ driveth = drives.

¹² Das Interim wurde am 15. Mai 1548 den Ständen zur Abstimmung vorgelegt, es erhielt Gesetzeskraft durch die Aufnahme in den Reichsabschied vom 30. Juni 1548.

¹³ Vgl. oben Einleitung Anm. 14.

¹⁴ Vgl. II Petr 2,22.

¹⁵ you.

¹⁶ Augsburg.

¹⁷ Vgl. Ps 2,4.

¹⁸ grievous.