# Jost von Silenen

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**Jost von Silenen** (Küssnacht, 1435 or 1445 – <u>France</u>, <u>December</u> 1498) was a Swiss Catholic bishop.

## **Biography**

He studied civil and canon law at the <u>University of Pavia [1]</u>. Starting in 1472 von Silenen moved to the court of King <u>Louis XI</u> of France as a representative of the <u>Swiss Confederation</u>. On behalf of the French ruler he helped seal the 1474 peace agreement between the Swiss and Duke <u>Sigismund of Austria</u>. The following year he became coadjutor of <u>Grenoble</u>. Thanks to the services rendered to the French crown for the assignment of <u>Franche-Comté</u> after the defeat of <u>Charles the Bold</u>, in 1477, von Silenen was appointed bishop of Grenoble [1].

In 1482 he was proclaimed bishop of <u>Sion</u> with the support of the Valais diet <sup>[1]</sup>. In 1484, at the head of the Valais militias, he crossed

Jost von Silenen
bishop of the Catholic Church

Positions
held

Bishop of Grenoble
(1477-1482)

Bishop of Zion (14821496)

Titular bishop of
Gerapolis (1497-1498)

Born

1435-1445 in Küssnacht

Deceased

1498 in France

the Alps and sacked the  $\underline{\text{Val d'Ossola}}$  as far as  $\underline{\text{Domo}}$ . Three years later he tried again to repeat the feat, however his plan of conquest failed when his army was  $\underline{\text{stopped}}$  and defeated by  $\underline{\text{Milanese troops near Crevola and Masera}}$ 

After the defeat suffered and the peace signed with Milan, von Silenen's authority was undermined by the rise of Georges Supersaxo. With the occupation of the city of Sion in 1496 by the militias of  $\underline{\text{Brig}}$ ,  $\underline{\text{Goms}}$  and  $\underline{\text{Visp}}$ , the bishop was forced to flee to  $\underline{\text{Lyon}}$ . The following year, officially deprived of his office, he was named titular bishop of Gerapolis.

#### **Notes**

1. Philipp Kalbermatter, <u>Jost von Silenen</u>, in <u>Historical Dictionary of Switzerland</u>.

### **External links**

- (IT, DE, FR) Jost von Silenen, su hls-dhs-dss.ch, Historical Dictionary of Switzerland.
- ( EN ) David M. Cheney , Jost von Silenen , in Catholic Hierarchy .

## Authority control

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