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XVI
REVELATIONS
OF
Divine Love,
Shewed to a Devout Servant
of our Lord, called
MOTHER JULIANA,
AN
Anchorete of NORWICH:
Who lived in the Dayes of KING
EDWARD the Third.

Published by *R. F. S. Cressy*.

Accedite ad Deum & Illuminamini. Psal. 33. v. 5.

Printed in the Year, MDCLXX.

Permissu Superiorum.

SURVIVAL OF A BOOK

In 1683, 9 young women set off from England to the Netherlands to establish a monastery. They carried a few possessions, and one was a copy of a 300-year-old manuscript entitled "Revelations of Divine Love", written by Julian of Norwich.

In 1373, as Julian lay dying and received her last rites, she began experiencing mystical visions, 16 in total. Miraculously Julian survived and proceeded to write down her conversations with God.

Even as she was writing her visions down, she was aware of how dangerous this was. She was writing of a compassionate, all-loving, ever-forgiving God, and she described God as our nourisher, just as "Our Mother" would be. All of this was directly in contrast to the Church's view of a vengeful, wrath-seeking God at the time.

Years after, Julian became an anchorite to dedicate her life to God and spiritual counseling. Again, a priest performed her funeral rite; this time it symbolized her being dead to this world and reborn into a life with God. She rose from the floor and walked into her small "cell" attached to the Church of Norwich, never exiting that room again. She lived here for the rest of her life until she died at the age of 73. And it was during this time she wrote the complete manuscript of her visions, "Revelations of Divine Love".

After her death, only a faithful few knew of her writings and began making copies and secretly circulating it.

Throughout the centuries, people had been murdered and burned at the stake, and countless nuns and friars were imprisoned and then beheaded because they dared to either have read or possessed a copy of this manuscript.

Julian's manuscript was originally published in 1670 and then just as quickly suppressed.

In 1901 a copy of the manuscript was discovered in the British Library under the "Magic and Witchcraft" section.

Her book was republished in 1901. "Revelations of Divine Love" was the first book ever published in the English language (the language of the common people) and it was written by a woman!! Julian of Norwich