Rebecca Nurse

Who was Rebecca Nurse?

- “She was described as "not only innocent of any crime, but a very model of Christian piety" (Gross).
- “Rebecca Nurse is a very important part of history. She was a role model to many people. Nurse has proven that the unexpected can happen” (G).
- Rebecca was a kind, compassionate, and respected for her gentleness. This lead to people speaking out for her innocence (Abbotson).
- “Many people believed that Nurse should not have been accused of witchcraft. People in Salem village have said that she is saint-like, a perfect example of good Puritan behavior” (G).
- “Rebecca nurse was one of most unlikely people to be accused of witchcraft. Most people thought that Nurse would never be accused. This was a quite a shocker to people living in the Salem area” (G).

Claims Against Rebecca

- “Nurse had brought "the black man" with her to tempt the afflicted girls to sign the Devil’s Book and provoke God’s wrath. Others joined Putnam in a litany of claims against Rebecca blaming her for untimely deaths and convulsive fits” (Gross).
• “For the accusations against both Elizabeth and Rebecca Nurse are the visible
evidence of the private vengeance at work under the guise of the dark power of
evil. The vengeance of the Putnams has fueled the accusation against Rebecca;
the vengeance of Abigail has manipulated the charge against Elizabeth”
(Marino).

Rebecca's Death

• There was a death warrant for Rebecca Nurse and many others accused of
witchcraft during the "Salem witchcraft trials of 1692." The women that were
accused were sentenced to be hung. Later, their hangings would cause friction.
Especially because Nurse was looked at as a highly respected church member,
and many people believed she wasn't guilty of such a thing as witchcraft ("Salem
Trials").

• Rebecca Nurse was shunned by the community that believe she was bound for
hell. Rebecca was eventually hung in Gallows Hill. Rebecca's husband had found
her body in a grave at Gallows Hill, and carried it back to their house and buried
it properly ("Rebecca Nurse (Towne)").

• “Tradition says that at midnight Francis Nurse, his sons and sons-in-law found
Rebecca's body in the common grave where it had been flung and carried it
home for a proper burial in an unmarked grave” ("Rebecca Nurse (Towne)").
Works Cited


