

# Necessitas condicionata, revelare condicionaliter, revelacio sub condicione

## Compatibilist Formulas in Fourteenth Century English Prophetology

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**Abstract:** The theological debates that animated the Oxford milieu in the 1320s and 1330s found one of their central themes in prophecy and its potential fatalistic implications. An analysis of key textual *loci* bearing witness to this discussion – especially quodlibetal questions and commentaries on the *Sentences* – reveals a recurrent use of linguistic formulas such as *necessitas condicionata*, *revelatio sub condicione*, and *revelare condicionaliter*. These formulas reflect an effort to articulate models of prophecy capable of reconciling the necessity of divine revelation with the contingency of human free will. Their varied nuances disclose a complex and finely modulated understanding of *necessitas*, functioning as part of a broader strategy to construct compatibilist accounts of prophecy. The present study seeks to trace the development and significance of these modal expressions, from the first generation of English theologians – examining case studies such as Ockham and Chatton – to the solutions proposed by the second generation, including figures such as Kilvington and Fitz-Ralph. Ultimately, it aims to delineate the historical and theoretical contours of a conversational community that played a leading role in the theological debates of the early fourteenth century.

**Keywords:** Prophecy, Necessitas Condicionata, Contingency, Compatibilism, Ockham, Chatton, Kilvington, FitzRalph, Holcot.