

CHAPTER 6

THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES AND RECONSTRUCTION

Many Christians believe that God ordained and established this nation as a bulwark of individual liberty and freedom unparalleled in the history of mankind. However, by 1860 the nation was rending itself asunder, and Americans were set against each other. It appeared that man was single-mindedly determined to destroy all that God had built.

Why did the separate sections of this country resort to war to settle their differences? Scholars have much debated the probable causes for the War Between the States. The Bank of the United States, protective tariffs, states' rights, and slavery have all been offered as likely causal factors. All these factors, however, are merely human ones.

The major question to be asked is, "Why would God allow the awful destruction of war to occur within our nation—a war that took more American lives than any war in the history of the United States?" Was this conflict a divine judgment for American's sin, or was it a test of national faith?

A visitor to the White House once said to President Lincoln, "I'm glad, Mr. President, that God is on our side in the war." Lincoln replied, "Sir, my concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right."

I. SOUTHERN ASCENDANCY (1861-1863)

A. Beginnings of the War

The period before the War Between the States was one of much uneasy restlessness, and out of that restlessness arose religious apostasy and cultism. Once again many people turned their backs on God. Had He also turned His back on them? In 1863 President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation for "A Day of National Humiliation, Fasting, and Prayer," which stated in part:

"And, in so much as we know that, by His divine law, nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world, may we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war, which now desolates the land, may be but a punishment, inflicted upon us, for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole People? We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven. We have been preserved, these many years, in peace and prosperity. We have grown in numbers,

wealth, and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us? It behooves us, then, to humble ourselves before the offended Power, to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness."

It is clear to see that President Lincoln understood and was calling the American people to the admonition and promise of II Chronicles 7:14.

The War Between the States has been known by many names. Among the titles given the War are: the Civil War, the American Civil War, the War of the Rebellion, the War of the Great Rebellion, the War of Secession, and the War for Southern Independence. By whatever name it is called, the War Between the States marked a definite turning point in American history. It was the last of the old-fashioned wars and the first of the modern wars. The War Between the States introduced to the world the concept of *total war*¹. Many new inventions and ideas that had never been used before were utilized in the War Between the States. Among these inventions were: mines, rifled weapons, telegraphy, photography, aerial (balloon) observation, breech loading and repeating firearms, trenches, barbed wire entanglements, machine guns, and armored warships. Railroads were employed to a greater degree than in any previous war. *Conscription*,² as a means of raising large numbers of fighting men, was used extensively by both the North and the South.

Even before the election of 1860, many Southern states had threatened to secede from the United States if Abraham Lincoln became President. In December 1860 South Carolina became the first state to leave the Union. By the time of Lincoln's inauguration in March 1861, another six states had joined South Carolina. Eventually, eleven states would form the Confederate States of America. The Confederacy was composed of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas. Twenty-three states remained loyal to the Union, thus causing the seceded states to be outnumbered two to one. In almost every area of comparison, the South fell far short off the North in the overall ability to wage war.

¹ total war – the concept that there is no difference between a combatant and noncombatant population in war

² Conscription – compulsory service for the government, especially in the armed forces, the draft

The Confederates did have some inherent advantages, however. The South was fighting on home territory and had a stronger military tradition than the North. The long Southern coastline was difficult to blockade, and Southerners were, in their minds, fighting for a definite principle.

1. What are other names that the War Between the States was known as:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
 - e. _____
 - f. _____
2. Some of the inventions used during the War were: _____

3. _____ was the first state to leave the Union in 1860.
4. Lost the 11 states that made up the Confederacy. _____

5. Who had a stronger military tradition the North or the South? _____

1. Baltimore Conspiracy. On February 11, 1861, President-elect Abraham Lincoln boarded a train in Springfield, Illinois, bound for Washington, D.C. Just seven days earlier, on February 4, six Southern states had formed a separate government called the Confederate States of America. The fifty-two-year-old Lincoln bid farewell to his lifelong neighbors with the following words, *“Here I have lived a quarter of a century, and have passed from a young man to an old man. Here my children have been born, and one is buried. I now leave, not knowing when, or whether ever, I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that Divine Being who ever attended him, I cannot succeed. With that assistance I cannot fail.”*

It had been Lincoln’s plan to travel slowly by rail from his home in Springfield, Illinois, to Washington, D. C., and stop for personal appearances at most large eastern cities, including Baltimore, Maryland.

Meanwhile, the president of the Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad had hired the famous Chicago detective, Allan Pinkerton, to investigate rumors of a plot to sabotage the railroad in the Baltimore area. Pinkerton sent his agents into Baltimore, Havre de Grace, Perryville, and surrounding localities. Pinkerton's greatest and most famous operative, Timothy Webster, headed the investigation. Pinkerton agents discovered a plot not only to sabotage the railroad but also to assassinate the President-elect before he could be inaugurated. The detectives wormed their way into numerous secret societies and won the confidences of hotheaded secessionists and naïve Baltimore belles. The leader of the conspiracy was a mysterious Italian national employed as a barber in a Baltimore hotel. This shadowy individual appeared out of nowhere to spearhead the assassination plot and then, just as surreptitiously, disappeared. It may well be asked, "Why would a barber from Italy be so concerned with American secessionists' interests?"

One Pinkerton operative actually attended a private meeting of a *clandestine*³ Baltimore organization, at which the murder of Lincoln was plotted. The participants drew lots to see who would commit the actual murder. To ensure that the plot would not misfire, more than one assassin was chosen. The lots were drawn in such a way that only each murderer would know that he had been chosen, and the would-be assassins were not even known to each other. Other Pinkerton operatives learned of plans to cut telegraph wires and destroy railroad bridges so that news of the assassination could not be communicated north.

Pinkerton submitted a full report of these activities to Lincoln while the later proceeded east. At first Lincoln tended to ignore Pinkerton's repeated warnings. He felt he owed it to the people who had elected him to appear before them as planned and promised. Finally, the president-elect was persuaded as to the gravity of the situation, and he allowed himself to be spirited through Baltimore in a railroad sleeping car a day ahead of schedule. When the Presidential train arrived in Baltimore a day later, the conspirators found themselves without a target for their wrath, and the participants fled far and wide, realizing their plot had been discovered.

When the War broke out, Pinkerton himself was chosen by General George B. McClellan to head up Union army intelligence. Pinkerton, known around army headquarters as Major E. J. Allen, organized this country's first formal Federal Secret Service. Pinkerton was a brilliant organizer, and his men preformed nearly impossible tasks of *espionage*⁴ and daring behind

³ clandestine – secret, undercover

⁴ espionage – a way to obtain secret information by using spies.

Confederate lines. One of his men actually penetrated the very office of the Confederate Secretary of War, Judah P. Benjamin.

Many of Pinkerton's men became supposed agents of Confederate espionage while in reality working for the Union. Many owned both Confederate and Union passes and carried messages for both sides. All Confederate dispatches somehow found their way to McClellan's headquarters for copying before going on to their intended destination. Pinkerton's number one man, Timothy Webster, was caught by the confederates and hanged as a spy. Many of the espionage techniques used today were started by Allan Pinkerton and his operatives.

2. Opening Shots. On March 11, 1861, delegates from the seceded states met to promulgate a constitution for the Confederate States of America. Their government was a confederacy of sovereign states. The Confederate constitution limited the central government, prohibited the slave trade, recognized and protected slavery itself, prohibited protective tariffs, but failed to allow for secession. The Southern states had previously selected Mississippian Jefferson Davis as President of the Confederacy. Davis was a West Point graduate who had served in the Black Hawk and Mexican Wars. He was Secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce and had served two terms in the United States Senate. When secession began President Davis ordered the seizure of all Federal properties within each Confederate state. Only four United States forts, situated along the eastern seaboard, remained in Union hands. The most important of these Federal installations was Fort Sumter, located in the harbor at Charleston, South Carolina. The South demanded the immediate surrender of Fort Sumter, but President Lincoln was determined to keep the besieged citadel in Northern hands. Fort Sumter became the symbol of the disagreements between the North and the South.

Fort Sumter, a five-foot-thick masonry coastal fortification located in Charleston Harbor, South Carolina, was named after General Thomas Sumter. It was built after War of 1812 and towered approximately fifty feet above low water to command the main ship channels.

On March 5, 1861, the Union commander of Fort Sumter, Major Robert Anderson, informed Washington, D. C., that he desperately needed reinforcements and supplies. Anderson had 85 men in his command and was besieged by 5,500 South Carolina militiamen. On April 6, 1861, President Lincoln informed the state of South Carolina that he was sending an unarmed supply ship to Fort Sumter. Jefferson Davis ordered General P. G. T. Beauregard to fire on the fort only if absolutely necessary. Beauregard feared that if Fort Sumter were reinforced in any way, she would become impregnable. Beauregard again requested Anderson to surrender the

fort, but once more the latter refused. At 4:30 in the morning on April 12, 1861, the Confederates opened fire on Fort Sumter. After thirty-four hours of withering bombardment, Major Anderson surrendered Fort Sumter into Southern hands. No one was injured during the bombardment, but the War Between the States had begun. On April 15 Lincoln formally proclaimed that a state of rebellion existed and issued a call for 75,000 militia volunteers. One week later, when the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment marched through Baltimore, Maryland, on their way to the South, the Union troops were attacked by an angry mob of Southern sympathizers. Four soldiers and twelve civilians were killed. The first blood of the War Between the States had been shed.

6. Who was the famous Chicago detective hired to investigate rumors of a plot to sabotage the railroad? _____
7. Pinkerton discovered that there was a plot to assassinate _____.
8. Because of the plot, Lincoln was taken through _____ a day ahead of schedule in a sleeping car.
9.
 - a. Pinkerton was chosen to head up _____.
 - b. He was known around headquarters as _____.
 - c. He also organized the country's first formal _____.
10. Espionage means _____.
11. The Confederate constitution limited central _____, prohibited _____ trade, recognized and protected _____, prohibited _____ tariffs.
12. President of the Confederacy was _____.

3. Songs of the War Between the States. Every war has had its songs that became an integral part of the crusade of that particular conflict. The War Between the States was no exception. "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "Dixie" became the melodic personifications of the Union and Confederacy respectively. The tune of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" was originally a camp meeting song written by William Steffe and had the words, "Say, brothers, will you meet us on Canaan's happy shore?" As anti-Southern sentiment grew in the North, the song became known as "John Brown's Body" and contained derogatory lines about John Brown and Jefferson Davis.

In December 1861 Julia Ward Howe visited the Union army camps near Washington, D. C., and heard the Yankee soldiers singing "John Brown's Body." She was captivated by the tune but thought it deserved better words. On her return home, Mrs. Howe wrote the words of a poem which began, "Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord." The following spring

her poem was published in the *Atlantic Monthly*, and editor James Russell Lowell named the poem “The Battle Hymn of the Republic,” with the tune from “John Brown’s Body,” was immediately popular and soon became the major Union war song.

“Dixie” was originally composed for a Negro minstrel show by Daniel Decatur Emmett. The song was written in 1859 in New York City. It was intended as the closing number of the show, as it allowed the entire cast to parade about the stage in a grand finale. “Dixie” also became an immediately popular song. Emmett’s original “Dixie” began, “I wish I was in the land of cotton. Old time there are not forgotten, Look away! Look away! Look away! Dixie Land.”

Many different versions of “Dixie” were published, including one entitled “The U.S.A. Forever.” This version encouraged the listener to “Come, all who live in the U.S.A., Join in our song and sing today. Work away, work away, work away, for the land of the free.” During the Presidential race of 1860, “Dixie” was used as an anti-Lincoln campaign song. The song was immensely popular in the South and became a Confederate war song. In 1865, just as the War was over, President Abraham Lincoln requested a military band at the White House to play “Dixie,” with the comment that he had always liked that song.

4. Choosing Sides. A general division of sentiments existed along the usual sectional lines, but not totally. Many American families found themselves manifesting divided loyalties. Men from every state fought in both armies. Some Americans supported one side over the other, not due to their own geographical location, but because they thought the cause was just. Union General George H. Thomas was born in Virginia, and Confederate General John C. Pemberton came from Pennsylvania. The financial agent in Europe, Caleb Huse, was a native of Massachusetts. Three of Mary Todd Lincoln’s brothers were killed while serving in the uniform of the Confederate armed forces.

5. Battle Plans. At the outset of the conflict, neither the Union nor the Confederacy was prepared for war. Neither side had a well-trained army nor the necessary munitions and supplies. Each side underestimated the other, and both combatants expected to be victorious after a short and easy war. After four long years, 600,000 men had died. Neither the North nor the South initially laid elaborate war plans because each was confident of immediate success. The basic Union strategy was threefold:

- (1) Blockade the Confederate coastline.
- (2) Gain control of the Mississippi River and divide the South in two.
- (3) Seize Richmond, Virginia (the capital of the Confederacy).

These three Union battle plans were calculated to produce the gradual strangulation of the Confederacy. Southern tactics primarily involved fighting a defensive war and simply holding the North at bay. Their one positive offensive plan called for the seizure of Washington, D.C., coupled with a northward thrust through the Shenandoah Valley into Virginia and Pennsylvania, which action would effectively drive a wedge into the middle of the Union. The geographical makeup of the eastern United States naturally divided the conflict into two main theaters of operation, with the Appalachian Mountains separating the two sections. The Eastern Theater stretched eastward from the Appalachians to the Atlantic Ocean. The Western Theater ran from the western slopes of the mountains to the Mississippi River. A third area of minimal importance was the trans-Mississippi. A few minor skirmishes and battles were fought in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas.

13. Name the two songs that were popular during the War. “ _____ ”
and “ _____ .”
14. Battle Hymn of the Republic was originally a _____ song.
15. Dixie was originally composed for a _____.
16. Three of Mary Todd Lincoln’s brothers were killed while serving in the _____.
17. After four years, _____ men had died.
18. The Eastern Theater stretched eastward from the _____ to the _____.
19. The Western Theater ran from the western slopes of the _____ to the _____.
20. Minor skirmishes and battles were fought in _____, _____,
and _____.

6. First Manassas (Bull Run). On July 21, 1861, the first significant battle between a Union and a Confederate army took place. Union General Irvin McDowell, in command of 35,000 men, hoped to crush a smaller Confederate contingent under General P.G.T. Beauregard. Beauregard, however, was secretly joined by troops under General Joseph E. Johnston, and this brought the combined Confederate forces to 32,000. The two opposing armies met some twenty-six miles southwest of Washington, D.C., near the little town of Manassas Junction on the banks of the creek called Bull Run. Throughout the morning hours, the North appeared to be winning. After ten hours of fighting, both sides were exhausted. Shortly after noon fresh Confederate

troops arrived, and the Union army began to retreat. The Union retreat soon degenerated into a general *rout*⁵. This First Battle of Manassas (also called Battle of Bull Run) clearly showed all Americans that the War was going to be of longer duration than they had anticipated. The day's fighting had resulted in 1,981 Confederate and 2,708 Union casualties. The decisive Confederate victory at Bull Run did much to build a feeling of great confidence throughout the South. It was during this battle that General Thomas J. Jackson received the name "Stonewall." Observers said that Jackson faced one particularly aggressive Yankee charge as firmly as a stone wall.

7. Naval Action. Union naval power may not have won the War Between the States, but it did enable the War to be won. To effectively blockade the 3,500 miles of Confederate coastline necessitated the building of a sizeable naval force. In 1861 the United States Navy consisted of a mere 90 ships, 1,300 officers, and 7,500 common seamen. By the end of the War, the Union navy had grown to 670 ships, 6,700 officers, and 51,000 sailors. The Confederacy, on the other hand, began with no navy at all. As the War progressed the Confederate navy became largely composed of privately owned vessels in the government employ. As the effects of the Northern blockade were felt, the besieged South grew more and more dependent on civilian blockade runners who smuggled in needed supplies. During the blockade years, the export of cotton from the South fell to two percent of its prewar volume. In an attempt to break the Yankee blockade, the South raised the sunken Union ship the *Merrimack*, covered her decks with iron plates, and renamed her the *Virginia*. On March 8, 1862, the *Virginia (Merrimack)* began attacking and sinking wooden Northern blockade ships off the Virginia coast. The next day a Northern ironclad, the *Monitor*, also made an appearance. The *Monitor*, the invention of Swedish engineer John Ericsson, was a small flat vessel with a revolving gun turret. She was said to resemble "a cheesebox on a raft." A spectacular battle between the two ironclads ensued. The battle between the *Monitor* and the *Merrimack*, the first in history between iron-covered warships, was totally inconclusive; and the two vessels retired. Oddly enough, the existence of these two pioneer ironclads was very short lived. The Confederates blew up the *Virginia* when they were forced to evacuate Norfolk, and the *Monitor* sank in a storm off Cape Hatteras later that winter.

21. The first significant battle took place at Bull Run in _____.
22. _____ power may not have won the War, but it did enable the War to be _____.

⁵ rout – a defeat usually accompanied with a disorderly flight

23. The South raised the sunken Union ship the _____, covered her decks with _____ and renamed her the _____.
24. The battle between the _____ and the _____ was the first in history between _____ warships.
25. a. The Confederates blew up the _____ when forced to evacuate Norfolk.
b. The _____ sank in a storm off Capt Hatteras.

B. Southern Offensive

1. Peninsular Campaign. Lincoln's call for volunteers was answered by thousands of men who swelled the ranks of the Union Army of the Potomac under the command of General George B. McClellan. Although General Robert E. Lee later called McClellan his most able opponent, McClellan has been accused of indecisiveness. During the winter of 1861 and 1862, McClellan refused to take the offensive against the Confederates. Finally, in April 1862 the Army of the Potomac began the invasion of the Virginia Peninsular. McClellan slowly advanced toward the Confederate capital of Richmond, winning a series of minor battles along the way. At one time McClelland was within five miles of his goal but did not press the attack.

Meanwhile, three of the South's greatest generals took the offensive against the Army of the Potomac. General "Stonewall" Jackson launched his Valley Campaign along the Shenandoah Valley. Jackson's *feint*⁶ toward Washington, D.C., achieved its intended result of diverting any potential reinforcements from McClellan's army. General J.E.B. Stuart of the Army of Northern Virginia led a lightning-like raid on the Federal troops in which he lost only one man. Lastly, General Robert E. Lee engaged McClellan in several battles and skirmishes that have been called the Battles of the Seven Days. The result of this three-fold Southern offensive was to cause the cautious McClellan to retreat northward.

Jackson received his nickname "Stonewall" because of his determination and steadfastness in battle. A friend of his in battle is credited as saying, "Look, men, there is Jackson standing like a stone wall!"

2. Second Manassas (Bull Run). After the failure of his Peninsular Campaign, General McClellan was ordered to join forces with General John Pope, who was stationed at Manassas Junction. Before McClellan could arrive, however, Confederate Generals Jackson, Lee, and Longstreet forced Pope into battle. Second Manassas, like First Manassas thirteen months earlier, ended in defeat and utter rout of the Federals. The disheartened Union army

⁶ feint – battle strategy of aiming on attack at one place to distract from the real target.

slowly retreated, in the pouring rain, toward Washington, D.C. The Second Battle of Bull Run cost Pope 16,054 men out of a total of 70,000. By the fall of 1862, the War was costing two million dollars per day. Northern spirits were not altogether high.

3. Antietam (Sharpsburg). The Confederate States of America hoped to win foreign recognition by successfully invading Yankee territory. On September 4, 1862, General Robert E. Lee crossed the Potomac River with 55,000 troops – the cream of Confederate soldiery. Lee met McClellan and 85,000 Federals at Sharpsburg, Maryland, near Antietam Creek. A series of Union attacks nearly broke the Confederate lines. All day long on September 17, the Northern and Southern armies were locked in a great battle, but neither side gave in. On September 19 Lee retreated, leaving behind him 11,000 dead gray-coated soldiers. McClellan lost 12,500 men, but the Southern invasion of the North had been halted. The fight at Antietam Creek was the bloodiest single-day's battle of the War Between the States. Even though Lee had been forced to retire from the field of battle, McClellan failed to follow up his advantage. President Lincoln decided that McClellan was not an effective supreme commander and had him replaced by General Ambrose E. Burnside.

4. The Emancipation Proclamation. Five days after the Battle of Antietam, President Abraham Lincoln issued the first (temporary) Emancipation Proclamation, declaring that on January 1, 1863, “all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be thence forward, and forever free.” Lincoln had waited for a Northern victory before issuing any such proclamation. Antietam was more of a draw than a victory, but the Southern advance had been halted, and Lee had been forced to retreat. Lincoln hoped that the declaration of emancipation would keep European nations from recognizing and aiding the South. Anti-slavery sentiments in France and England were strong enough to keep those two countries from involvement in the Southern cause, even though they were predisposed toward the Confederacy for economic reasons. Actually, the Emancipation Proclamation did not free all slaves but only those within the Confederate States. Slaves in the Union states of Delaware, Kentucky, Missouri, and Maryland was ended by the states themselves. The slaves in Delaware and Kentucky were freed by the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

26. Jackson received his name “Stonewall” because of his _____ and _____ in battle.

27. By the fall of 1862, the War was costing _____ dollars per day.
28. The fight at _____ was the bloodiest single-day’s battle of the War.
29. What did the first Emancipation Proclamation state? “ _____

_____.”
30. The Emancipation Proclamation freed only the slaves in the _____ states.

5. Fredericksburg. General Burnside moved his army to meet Lee’s forces on the banks of the Rappahannock River. The Confederates had fortified the hills called Marye’s Heights near Fredericksburg, Virginia. On December 13 Burnside’s army attempted to storm Lee’s well-nigh impregnable positions. The Federals launched a series of sixteen senseless charges against the Confederate lines, all of which were repulsed. The hopeless and impractical attacks were disastrous for the Army of the Potomac. Over 12,000 Union soldiers were killed or wounded, and the survivors were forced to flee in full retreat. Burnside, at his own request, was relieved of his command and replaced by General Joseph “Fighting Joe” Hooker. Union morale continued to plummet, and army desertions steadily increased.

6. Chancellorsville. In the spring of 1863, the Union Army of the Potomac outnumbered Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia two to one. Hooker hoped to outflank Lee and win a much needed victory. The maneuver appeared to be headed for success. However, instead of continuing with the flanking movement, Hooker stopped and, on April 27, set up defensive positions at Chancellorsville, Virginia. On May 2, Confederate Generals Robert E. Lee and “Stonewall” Jackson attacked Hooker’s front and right flank respectively. The Union army was nearly cut in two, but their defensive lines held. Four days later, however, a beaten Hooker retreated. Chancellorsville was but another in the series of devastating Yankee defeats. Hooker’s failure to defeat Lee precipitated the former’s immediate dismissal. One more Northern general, George Meade, was given the command of the continuingly unsuccessful Army of the Potomac. Even though the Battle of Chancellorsville was another great Confederate victory, the South suffered her severest loss of the War to that point. Lee’s ablest general, Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson, was accidentally shot and killed by one of his own men. When General Lee heard the terrible news, he said, “I have lost my right arm.”

31. The Union Army of the Potomac outnumbered Lee's Army of Northern Virginia _____ to _____.
32. The South suffered her severest loss of the War at the _____.

II. NORTHERN ASCENDANCY (1863-1865)

A. Turning Point

1. Antiwar Feelings. The year 1863 was, in almost every aspect, the turning point of the War Between the States. Morale throughout both the North and the South was extremely low. The dream of early victory had been shattered by two years of cruel war. Southern discouragement stemmed from some obvious areas of defeat. For two years the Confederate army had failed to wrest Virginia from Northern hands. In the West the Confederacy was steadily losing ground. No foreign recognition of the Confederate States of America appeared to be forthcoming. The Union blockade was causing terrible hardships throughout the South, and the resultant inflation was threatening to ruin the confederate economy.

In the North, public feeling was likewise deteriorating. Each Union attempt to invade the South had been repulsed, and President Lincoln seemed unable to find an able commander for the Army of the Potomac. The taxation that was needed to finance the War was increasing. The cancer of defeatism was slowly destroying the will of the nation to wage war. Portions of the civilian population were increasingly aiding and encouraging deserters. The number of volunteers in 1863 was so low that the Union and the Confederacy had to resort to conscription to meet the manpower needs. On March 3, 1863, Congress passed a draft act that resulted in severe rioting in many Northern cities. The worst anti-draft reaction occurred in New York City. From the thirteenth to the sixteenth of July, New York was literally at the mercy of howling mobs. Over 1,000 men were killed when Federal troops were sent to quell the four-day riot.

In the North there were increasing disagreements over the War and with President Lincoln's policies. One particular wing of the Democratic party favored compromise with the confederacy to end the War. They loudly called for "peace at any price." These Peace Democrats called themselves "the Sons of Liberty" after the group of the same name during the American War for Independence. They later organized themselves into a secret society known as the Knights of the Golden Circle. Loyal Unionists accused these Peace Democrats of being in league with the Confederates and further said they resembled the poisonous snake known as the copperhead. The name "Copperhead" stuck, and it evolved from a term of derision to one that

the owners proudly claimed. The Copperheads cut the Liberty heads from the United States copper pennies of the day and wore the copper pennies as badges.

Besides advocating peace, the Copperheads also favored *agrarian*⁷ and economic reform and opposed conscription, political arrests, and emancipation. They feared emancipation would eventually result in competition for their jobs. The *New York Daily News*, a newspaper of Copperhead leanings, railed its readers with the following question, “Why should a worker leave his family destitute while he goes out to war to free a Negro who will then compete with him for a job?” This kind of thinking greatly influenced the Irish workingmen in New York City. The anti-draft riots of 1863 were mainly a product of Irish “anti-Negroism.” The governor of New York and one of the leading Peace Democrats, Horatio Seymour, was personally blamed for the anti-draft riots that took Federal troops four days to quell.

The best known Copperhead was Clement Laird Vallandigham from Ohio. Vallandigham was vociferously critical of the Lincoln administration and even engineered a clandestine conspiracy to overthrow the Lincoln government. He organized the aforementioned Knights of the Golden Circle to implement these intrigues. The Knights of the Golden Circle had many of the ritualistic trappings of the later Ku Klux Klan groups, including the epithet, “the Invisible empire.” Vallandigham was arrested for making a seditious speech in Mount Vernon, Ohio, on May 1, 1863, and was charged with treason. Lincoln was not willing to create a Copperhead martyr and commuted Vallandigham’s sentence to simple banishment beyond Confederate lines. The Copperhead leader later ran the Union blockade and fled to Canada.

With the absence of Vallandigham, the Copperhead conspiracy simply evaporated. Vallandigham himself returned to the United States and took an active part in the 1864 Democratic National Convention. George McClellan became the Democratic Presidential candidate, and Vallandigham and the agrarian Peace Democrats wrote the platform for this McClellan peace group. Considerable economic support came from many giants of industry, transportation, and finance.

The Copperhead-Peace Democrat movement limped along until 1868 when Horatio Seymour ran for the Presidency. Seymour was soundly defeated by Ulysses S. Grant, and the movement died of attrition.

33. At the Battle of Chancellorsville, Stonewall Jackson was accidentally _____ and _____ by one of his own men.

⁷ agrarian – agricultural, rural

34. 1863 was the turning point of the War as the _____ was extremely low in both the North and the South.
35. Congress passed a _____ act in 1863 because the number of volunteers was so low.
36. The worst anti-draft reaction occurred in _____ where over _____ men were killed during a _____ day riot.
37. The Peace Democrats called themselves “the _____” and later became known as the Knights of the _____.
38. a. The *New York Daily News* railed it readers with what question? _____

_____.
- b. This kind of thinking greatly influenced the _____ workingmen in _____.
- c. The anti-riots were mainly a product of Irish “_____.”
39. The Knights of the Golden Circle had many of the ritualistic trappings of the later _____ - groups, including the epithet “the _____.”

2. Gettysburg. Because of Southern victories at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, General Lee felt confident enough to attempt another invasion of the North. On June 25, 1863, the Army of Northern Virginia crossed the Potomac River. Just prior to Lee’s invasion, Union General Joseph Hooker voluntarily turned over the command of the Army of the Potomac to General George Meade. As Lee advanced northward towards Pennsylvania, Meade moved to intercept him. The two armies met just outside the little town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. On the morning of July 1, a small party of Confederate foragers encountered a Union patrol, and the great Battle of Gettysburg began. Meade’s army of 90,000 men and Lee’s army of 75,000 fought what some consider to be the greatest battle ever fought in the Western Hemisphere. It became the turning point in the War Between the States.

The Battle of Gettysburg was really a series of engagements rather than one huge battle. On the first day, July 1, 1863, the fighting took place to the north and west of the town. The fighting raged on for some nine hours with little advantage being taken by either side. Union General John F. Reynolds was killed early in the day, and his successor, Major General Abner Doubleday, led the Union troops in a tortoise-like retreat through the streets of Gettysburg to positions along Cemetery Ridge. The Union position resembled an upside down fishhook and stretched along Cemetery Ridge from Culp’s Hill in the north to Little Round Top in the south.

While the Union army established itself along Cemetery Ridge, the Confederate army dug in 1,400 feet to the west along a parallel ridge called Seminary Ridge.

The second day of battle began with skirmishes and exchanges of artillery fire. Late in the afternoon, Generals James Longstreet and Richard E. Ewell launched separate attacks on the Union flanks. The Confederates had only limited success in gaining any ground and were totally unable to dislodge the thoroughly entrenched Yankees from Cemetery Ridge. The Southern leaders spent the night heatedly discussing the battle plans for the next day. Longstreet vehemently opted for further attempts to outflank the enemy, but Lee insisted upon a direct frontal attack. At last the reluctant Longstreet acquiesced. The next day, however, the uncooperative Longstreet kept Lee waiting for valuable hours while deploying his men. By the time Longstreet was ready, Meade had been reinforced with enough fresh troops that any advantage Lee might have had was gone. Shortly after 1:00 in the afternoon, the Yankee and Confederate artilleries began firing. Two miles of massed artillery pieces warred. The Union had 84 cannons, and the Confederates had 135. The Union, however, had vastly greater amounts of ammunition. After two hours of brutal bombardment, Confederate Major General George E. Pickett personally led 15,000 heroic Southerners in his famous charge. In massed formation the gray-coated soldiers ran across the 1,400 feet of open ground. When the Union artillery and riflemen opened fire on the charging Confederates, the latter were mowed down like stalks of wheat. Suffering unbelievable casualties, Pickett's men pushed on against the murderous fire. Several hundred Confederates under Pickett actually reached the top of Cemetery Ridge and briefly planted their battle flags within the Union lines. This moment in history was been called the "High-Water Mark of the Confederacy." The Southern triumph was, however, only momentary. After twenty minutes the Confederate attack had been broken and repulsed. Pickett's valiant charge suffered at least sixty percent casualties. Lee realized he was now without any hope of success, and he ordered his army to retreat. Because Meade failed to follow up his smashing victory with any kind of counterattack, Lee was able to regroup and withdraw in an orderly manner. During the night of July 4, the beaten Southern army painfully moved southward in the pouring rain. The South had lost nearly 30,000 men at Gettysburg. Due to the devastating losses suffered at Gettysburg, Lee was never again able to mount a major offensive. For the remainder of the War, the South was strictly on the defensive. The Battle of Gettysburg was indeed the turning point of the War for both the North and the South, but not in the way that Robert E. Lee had expected.

40. a. The _____ began when a small party of Confederate foragers encountered in Union patrol.
- b. Meade's _____ men and Lee's _____ men fought what has been considered to be the _____ battle ever fought in the _____.
- c. This battle became the _____ in the War.
41. a. The Battle of Gettysburg was a series of _____ rather than one huge _____.
- b. The first day of battle the fighting took place to the _____ and _____ of town.
- c. The second day the Confederates had limited _____ in gaining any ground and were unable to dislodge the _____.
42. a. The third day of battle saw the Union with _____ cannons and the Confederates with _____.
- b. However the _____ had greater amounts of ammunition.
43. When the Confederates ran across _____ feet of open ground, the Union mowed them down like stalks of _____.
44. The _____ lost nearly 30,000 men at Gettysburg.

3. Vicksburg. During and even before the Battle of Gettysburg was raging in southern Pennsylvania, other events of equally great importance were happening in the West. In February 1862 Union General Ulysses S. Grant had captured Fort Donelson in western Tennessee and two months later had won a Pyrrhic victory at the Battle of Shiloh (Pittsburg landing). Grant's army then moved south into the Mississippi Valley. Less than two weeks after Shiloh, Admiral David G. Farragut led a Union naval attack on the mouth of the Mississippi River and captured New Orleans.

With New Orleans in Federal hands, the Confederates commanded only 125 miles of the Mississippi River between Vicksburg and Port Hudson. The Confederacy had strengthened the defenses of Vicksburg, making them practically impregnable. Perched on a steep bluff 235 feet above the east bank of the Mississippi River, Vicksburg, known as the Confederate "Gibraltar of the West," remained the last major obstacle to total Union control of the Mississippi River. On June 27, 1862, Admiral Farragut made a futile attempt to attack Vicksburg from the river. The effect was abandoned, and on July 20 Farragut sailed back to New Orleans. In December a land attack was launched by the combined forces of Union Generals Ulysses S. Grant and William T.

Sherman. This campaign was also unsuccessful due to the swamps and bayous north of the city. The Union army simply became bogged down. General Grant also made two attempts to dig canal channels to facilitate a gunboat attack away from Vicksburg's river battery, but these attempts were aborted as well.

Finally Grant decided on a bolder scheme. His men and equipment were loaded on Admiral David Dixon Porter's gunboats and supply ships. Porter's small fleet slipped under Vicksburg's blazing guns in the dead of night, and Grant established a base camp south of Vicksburg on the west bank of the Mississippi. Grant's army marched southward down the west bank of the river and crossed back to the east side at Bruinsburg on April 30, 1863. Confederate General J.E. Johnston quickly rushed to relieve Vicksburg, but Grant cut Johnston off and defeated the Confederate forces at Champion's Hill. After the successful encounter with Johnston, Grant turned back west and attacked the city of Vicksburg. Two direct assaults proved, however, that Vicksburg's defenses were secure against such tactics.

The Union army then laid siege to the town because they could not take it by force. Meanwhile, Admiral Porter reran the river blockade with his gunboats and began to shell the town from the Mississippi River. At the same time, Grant's artillery bombarded Vicksburg from the landward side.

The civilian population of Vicksburg suffered greatly from the lack of food and the merciless bombardment. Many people hid in caves to escape the deadly hail of artillery shells. After nearly seven weeks of siege, the population was reduced to eating mules, dogs, cats, and rats to stay alive. On July 4, 1863 – the day after the Confederate defeat at Gettysburg – the Confederate commander of Vicksburg, General John C. Pemberton, surrendered to Grant. The Union army captured 260 cannons, 60,000 muskets, and 46,000 prisoners of war. Five days later Union General Nathaniel P. Banks accepted the Confederate surrender of Port Hudson. The Mississippi River was, in its entirety, a Yankee river. President Abraham Lincoln breathed a sigh of relief when he said, "The Father of Waters again goes unvexed to the sea." Next to Gettysburg, Vicksburg was the most important Union victory of the War, and the South would never quite recover from the losses sustained at Gettysburg and Vicksburg.

4. Gettysburg Address. Four months after the Battle of Gettysburg, on November 19, 1863, dignitaries from all over the Union gathered on the famous battlefield to dedicate a new national cemetery. The great American orator Edward Everett was the principal speaker. President Abraham Lincoln was also asked to give a few brief remarks. Lincoln's invitation to speak was really an afterthought. He was included in the ceremonies only because he was the

President of the United States. Everett spoke for two hours. Lincoln spoke for only five minutes. Few people today remember Mr. Everett or his words, but Lincoln’s few words have been read, memorized, and loved by thousands. Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address has been called “the only great modern English prose poem of classical perfection.”

GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate – we cannot consecrate – we cannot hallow – this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us – that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion – that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain – that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom – and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth

45. Admiral David Farragut led a _____ naval attack on the mouth of the Mississippi River and captured _____.
46. Vicksburg was known as the Confederate “_____.”
47. The civilian population of Vicksburg suffered greatly from the lack of _____ and the merciless _____.
48. The population was reduced to eating _____, _____, _____, and _____ to stay alive after 7 weeks of siege.
49. When General Pemberton, Confederate commander of Vicksburg surrendered to General Grant, the Union Army captured _____ cannons, _____ muskets, and _____ prisoners of war.
50. Five days later Union General Banks accepted the Confederate surrender of _____.
51. After the surrender of Vicksburg and Port Hudson, the Union controlled the entire _____.
52. Next to Gettysburg, _____ was the most important Union victory of the War.

53. November 1863, four months after the Battle of Gettysburg, dignitaries from all over the Union gathered to dedicate a new _____ on the famous battlefield.
54. a. At the dedication the great American orator Edward Everett spoke for _____ hours while President Lincoln spoke for only _____ minutes.
b. Today people remember _____ address more than _____.
55. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address has been called "the only great modern _____ prose poem of _____ perfection."

5. Abraham Lincoln, a Believer. Abraham Lincoln had a profound and lasting effect on the history of this country. God gave him the wisdom needed to lead the nation through one of the most horrific wars in the history of the United States – a war that threatened to permanently divide the country. Not only was God's hand at work in preserving the nation. His hand was also at work in Lincoln's heart. Abraham Lincoln's Godly mother was quoted as saying, "I would rather my son would be able to read the Bible than to own a farm, if he can't have but one." By reading the Bible the seed of the Gospel was planted early in Lincoln's life; however, it would be several years before that seed would bring forth the fruit of salvation. Although Lincoln believed in the providence of God, he did not believe all the doctrines of the Bible. He commented that he had tried to read the Bible but that it made no sense to him. The reason the Bible made no sense to him was because he did not know the Christ of the Bible.

Many men of God had significant spiritual influence on Lincoln. Charles Chiniquy, a born-again, ex-Catholic priest, whom Lincoln once defended in court, became a frequent visitor to the White House. Lincoln knew Chiniquy's testimony and observed his consistent Christian life. The President also knew about Dwight L. Moody and his growing Sunday school. Out of curiosity he once visited this famous Chicago Sunday school. These men and others watered the seed that had been planted by Lincoln's mother so many years before.

When President Lincoln traveled to Gettysburg to help dedicate the national cemetery, he was deeply affected upon seeing the graves of thousands of soldiers who had given their lives at the Battle of Gettysburg. It was there that he gave his life to Christ. He finally found the peace for which he had been searching most of his life.

Statements made by Lincoln testify to his new-found peace and reveal the spiritual profit he received from reading the Word of God. He once states, "In regard to this Great Book, I have but to say, it is the best gift God has given to man. All the good the Savior gave to the world was communicated through this book." Lincoln's mother desired that her son be able to read the

Bible. The seed his mother planted early in his life was watered by others and sprang to life when Lincoln became a true child of God.

One day a lady from a Christian organization was visiting the White House. Being impressed with the lady's faith, the President asked her to define the true religious experience. As she explained to him the plan of salvation, Lincoln listened intently. Finally he nodded his head and confessed that this was what had happened to him. Lincoln also told this lady "... it has been my intention for some time, at a suitable opportunity, to make a public religious profession."

Lincoln was finally persuaded to make that profession in church on the Sunday following his intended visit to Ford's Theater, but that public profession was never made. As we will learn later, Lincoln was not in church on that following Sunday because the bullet of an assassin ended his life here on earth.

6. Southern Army Revivals. Many of the Confederate leaders were true Believers, including Robert E. Lee and Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson. These men of faith greatly affected the Southern armies for Jesus Christ. It is said that the men under Jackson's command saw him constantly on his knees in prayer. Records indicate that the men of the Army of Northern Virginia were widely known for conducting their own revival meetings and carrying Bibles with them throughout the War. Nearly every Confederate regiment held prayer meetings before and after battles. From 1862 until the end of the War in 1865, a series of revivals swept through the Confederate armies. Many ministers of the Gospel had joined the troops by 1862, and these chaplains preached the Word of God to the men in uniform.

Jackson's own corps held a revival in its camp after the terrible Battle of Antietam. Other revival meetings took place before the Battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. Everybody, from the commanding generals to the common privates, attended these services. In one Mississippi brigade, 500 men came to faith in Christ as Savior. Lee's Second and Third Army Corps were especially well-known for their religious zeal, and in a space of four months, over 5,000 men received the Lord Jesus as their Savior. During the retreat of Lee's army from Gettysburg, the men held prayer meetings, Bible readings, and preaching services. Often 2,000 or more soldiers would meet together in these meetings, sometimes without regular chaplains. Missionaries, pastors, chaplains, and laymen of the Methodist, Presbyterian, and Baptist churches spread the Gospel of Christ among the spiritually hungry Confederate soldiers.

These army revivals continued until the end of the War, and it is thought that these thousands of new converts to Christianity helped sustain the ravaged South through the difficult days of reconstruction that followed. Many of these men who became Believers entered the

ministry full time when the War was over. The War Between the States was a physical curse but a spiritual blessing to the South in particular and to the nation as a whole.

56. a. Abraham Lincoln had a _____ and _____ effect on the history of this country.
- b. God gave him _____ needed to lead the nation through one of the most horrific _____ in the history of the _____.
57. List two men who had significant spiritual influence on President Lincoln.
_____ and _____
58. The men of the Army of Northern Virginia were known for conducting _____ meetings and carrying _____ with them throughout the War.
59. Nearly every Confederate regiment held prayer meetings _____ and _____ battles.

B. Final Decline

1. Chickamauga and Chattanooga. In the fall of 1863, Union General William S. Rosecrans forced Confederate General Braxton Bragg out of the city of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and into northwest Georgia. On September 20, 1863, the retreating Bragg turned and attacked Rosecrans at Chickamauga Creek. The Union army was completely routed except for the left flank under General George H. Thomas. Thomas, a Virginian held his portion of the Union line against repeated assaults by superior numbers, but eventually he too, was forced to withdraw. Thomas' tenacity won him the epithet "The Rock of Chickamauga." Due to his defeat in the vicious two-day battle, Rosecrans was replaced by Thomas. The latter led the battered Union army back to Chattanooga, which they proceeded to occupy and fortify.

Bragg did not follow up his victory at Chickamauga, possibly due to the fact that he had lost 17,000 men. He finally advanced and occupied Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, and other heights around Chattanooga. Once in position the Confederates set up artillery pieces and besieged the Union army in Chattanooga. Grant marched his army to Chattanooga to reinforce Thomas. On November 23 through 25, the Yankees dislodged Bragg from the heights. Due to its lofty elevation, the engagement on Lookout Mountain was called "the Battle Above the Clouds." Thomas' army wiped out any shame felt by its defeat at Chickamauga by sweeping up Missionary Ridge and capturing it in less than an hour. Bragg was forced to retreat back to Georgia. The Battle of Chattanooga opened the way for the North to advance into Georgia and Alabama.

2. Wilderness Campaign. Because of his part in the victories at Vicksburg and Chattanooga, General U.S. Grant was made the supreme commander of all Union armies on March 9, 1864. Grant took as his number one goal the capture of Richmond. On May 4 Grant led the Army of the Potomac across the Rapidan and Rappahannock Rivers into what was known as the Wilderness of Virginia. The area was a hopeless tangle of underbrush and trees. Cavalry and artillery soon proved to be utterly useless in the Wilderness Campaign. The troops spent as much time fighting fires as each other. Any real semblance of order in the Wilderness was virtually impossible. Grant lost nearly 55,000 men out of his army of 125,000. He lost 7,000 in a single hour at the Battle of Cold Harbor. For forty days, the two armies hammered away at each other. Basically, the Wilderness Campaign was a draw, but Lee did find that he was confronted with something new. Grant refused to retreat when defeated and followed up victories with vigorous counterattacks. The massive chess game between Grant and Lee slowly advanced the Union toward its ultimate goal – Richmond! Grant vowed that he would attain that end “if it takes all summer.” The Battle of Spotsylvania Court House (May 8-19) ended without a victor. At Cold Harbor (June 1-3), Grant was repulsed, but he refused to be turned aside. The Union army turned toward Petersburg, the key to the defense of Richmond.

General Ulysses S. Grant was committed to his course. During the Wilderness Campaign he said, “If you see the President, tell him from me that whatever happens there will be no turning back.”

3. Sherman’s March to the Sea. In May, while General Grant was fighting the Wilderness Campaign, General William T. Sherman led his Union army of 90,000 men toward Atlanta, Georgia. Southern General Joseph E. Johnston vainly attempted to stop the oncoming Sherman but found to his frustration that when he set up defensive positions, Sherman would not fight a pitched battle. Sherman would engage Johnston in a skirmish and then simply outflank the Confederate army and continue on toward Atlanta. Johnston was powerless to stop his dauntless adversary. Confederate President Jefferson Davis blamed Johnston and had him replaced by General John B. Hood. By that time Sherman was at the outskirts of Atlanta. Hood proved to be equally as ineffective against Sherman as Johnston had been. Hood positioned himself to defend the city, but Sherman wheeled around and attacked him from behind. On September 1, 1864, after forty days of siege and ceaseless artillery bombardment, Atlanta fell to Yankee hands. As the retreating Confederates evacuated, they watched a major portion of the city burn to the ground.

On November 15, 1864, Sherman began his famous (or infamous) March to the Sea. With 60,000 men he marched 300 miles across the state of Georgia from Atlanta to Savannah. General Sherman introduced to the world a new kind of military concept, that of total war. Virtually unopposed, Sherman's men simply walked across Georgia for three months, destroying everything in their path. Across a sixty-mile front, the Yankees lived off the land, destroyed crops, stole or shot livestock, burned homes and barns, and ripped up railroad tracks. Everything that could not be taken with them was destroyed.

Sherman's army was like a sixty-mile plague of locusts. On December 21 Sherman broke through the weak defenses of Savannah and presented that city to President Lincoln as a "Christmas present." Because Sherman made no distinction between military and civilian population and property, he has often been painted a monster. Sherman must be viewed, however, as the first modern military leader. His march to the Sea cut the enemy territory in two and may have brought the War to a speedier conclusion.

60. a. Who was forced out of the city of Chattanooga, Tennessee and into northwest Georgia? _____
b. Was he a Union or Confederate general? _____
61. Why did General Bragg not follow up his victory at Chickamauga? _____

62. The engagement on Lookout Mountain was called "the _____."
63. The Battle of Chattanooga opened the way for the North to advance into _____ and _____.
64. As supreme commander of the Union armies, General Grant took as his number one goal to _____.
65. a. In the Wilderness Campaign, Grant lost nearly _____ men out of his army of _____.
b. He lost _____ in a single hour at the _____.
66. In 1864, after 40 days of siege and ceaseless artillery bombardment, _____ fell to Yankee hands.
67. General Sherman broke through the weak defenses of _____ and presented it to President Lincoln as a "_____."

4. The End. The last obstacle to the conquest of Richmond was the rail terminus, Petersburg, south of the Confederate capital. Grant, realizing that he could not take Petersburg by storm, laid siege to the city. For nine long months, both sides dug trenches and attempted to wait out each other. Late in March 1865, Grant renewed his efforts to gain control of Petersburg. The nine months of siege were not without effect. On Sunday, April 2, Petersburg fell, and the road to Richmond lay open. The news was brought to Confederate President Jefferson Davis on Sunday morning while he was attending church services. Realizing that Richmond would have to be evacuated, Davis gathered his government and fled to Danville, Virginia. On the morning of Monday, April 3, 1865, Federal troops entered Richmond.

The embattled Confederacy was fighting for its very life, but outmanned and outgunned the Confederate States of America were sinking fast. One thing that held the South together in those hopeless times was the high caliber of some of its leadership, both military and civilian. One of these leaders was a brilliant Jew named Judah P. Benjamin. Benjamin was born in the Virgin islands of Sephardic Jewish parents in the year 1811. As a child he was taken to Wilmington, North Carolina, and later to Charleston, South Carolina. Benjamin attended Yale University but never received a degree. He studied law and opened a law practice in New Orleans.

Benjamin was twice elected senator from Louisiana, making him the first Jewish United States senator in history. Once, when a fellow senator insulted him with an anti-Semitic remark, Benjamin replied, "The gentleman will please remember that when his half-civilized ancestors were hunting wild boar in the forest of Silesia, mine were the princes of the earth!" This was actually a paraphrase of the Jewish Prime Minister of England, Benjamin Disraeli, who, when confronted with the same situation, had replied, "Yes, I am a Jew, and when the ancestors of the right honorable gentleman was brutal savages in an unknown island, mine were priests in the Temple of Solomon."

When the War Between the States broke out, Benjamin returned to the South and served the confederacy successively as its Attorney General, Secretary of War, and Secretary of State. It is said that Benjamin was the Southern agent for the English branch of the House of Rothschild (international firm of bankers) and was able to obtain large sums of English Rothschild money to help finance the Southern war effort. After the War a price was placed on Benjamin's head. (It was rumored that he was involved in the Lincoln assassination.) He was forced to escape by boat from the coast of Florida. After many months of hardships on the open Atlantic, Benjamin arrived in England. He remained in exile there many years and took up law practice again. In

London he also wrote a book entitled *Treatise on the Law of Sale of Personal Property*, which stands today as a standard reference work. He later went to Paris where he died in 1884.

On April 9, 1865, General Robert E. Lee found himself surrounded by the Union armies. The capital of the confederacy had been captured, and the South was cut up into three sections. There was nothing else to do but surrender. At Appomattox Court House, Lee and Grant agreed to the terms of surrender, and the War Between the States was over. The band played “Dixie,” and the Southern army rode or walked home.

Whether the War Between the States was judgment or testing or both lies fully with God, but the entire nation did suffer as well as profit from the conflict. Viewed solely from man’s perspective, the War seemed a terrible disaster, but in the mind of our Almighty Sovereign God laid the vision of a greater nation purged by fire and the sword.

It cannot go without comment that the suffering and physical hardships brought a time of spiritual reawakening across the land. It was a time when men were being saved. The President of the United States himself became a true Believer, and thousands of common soldiers came to know the Lord Jesus as Savior. Dwight L. Moody began his great work of evangelism. Many men, and women, surrendered their lives for full-time Christian service and missionary outreach. In the ravages of lives and families being torn apart, Believers found – in the North and South alike – new strength in God. The South suffered greatly both from the War and the period of Reconstruction that followed, but “de land ob cotton” rose from the ashes to become the “Bible Belt,” a part of the country that has continued to stand firm on the fundamentals of the Christian faith.

68. After nine months the Federal troops captured _____.
69. a. Judah Benjamin was the first _____ United States Senator in history.
b. He served as _____, _____ and _____
_____ for the Confederacy.
70. General Lee and General Grant met at the _____ _____ _____ to agree to the terms of surrender.

III. RECONSTRUCTION (1865-1875)

A. Congressional Reconstruction

At the end of the War Between the States, the South was in shambles. Its economy had been disrupted, and cotton fields had become battlefields as the region had been forced to turn its attention from tilling to killing.

Especially in Georgia, where Sherman had marched to the sea burning and ravaging a sixty-mile stretch of land across the state, the damage was great.

The abrupt end of slavery, coupled with such economic devastation, was a hard blow to the culture of the South. Southerners were faced with learning a whole new way of life. The old lifestyle of plantations based upon slave labor and a landowning aristocracy was over.

Most of the sons of the old landowners had been officers in the War. As in all wars, a goodly number of officers were killed, leaving families without capable men to run the plantations. Many of the big plantation houses had also been burned or at least were in grave disrepair. Compounding all this, most Southerners were financially insolvent – unable to pay their debts.

1. Radicalism. The South's problems were heightened by the programs introduced in the United States Congress by Radical Republicans who wanted to punish the South for leaving the union. President Abraham Lincoln and President Andrew Johnson, who succeeded him, were both eager to ease the burden on the South. Lincoln felt that the South should not be treated as though it had left the Union. Since the War was over, the South's right to secede was denied. Union victory proved they did not have that right. To treat them as though they had truly been a separate nation was at this point illogical. The Radicals in Congress disagreed. They believed the South should be treated as an enemy territory that had been conquered and was now to be occupied.

2. Assassination of Lincoln. The Radical Republicans opposed Lincoln's rather lenient policies, and the fate of the South was sealed when Lincoln was shot to death by the actor John Wilkes Booth. The Lincolns had been attending a play in Ford's Theater on that portentous evening of April 14, 1865, when Booth entered the theater box in which they were sitting and fatally shot the President.

No one really knows why Booth killed Lincoln. It was said that he had strong Southern sympathies, but even this does not explain his rash act. Booth was never brought to trial but was

shot in a burning barn. At the time, it was rumored by some that the man who was shot was not Booth. However, there was no real evidence to support such a claim.

Immediately, the Radicals and others in the North blamed the assassination on the South. Whether a Southern plot to kill Lincoln really existed has never been proven. Many other theories had been given as to the reason or group behind the assassination. Plots have been credited to Jesuits and to international bankers. One theory from the historical context would be that some of the Radicals themselves had Lincoln assassinated to remove him from their projected path. An extreme theory even suggests that the assassination was an attempt by the Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton, to overthrow the government and establish himself as a dictator similar to Napoleon.

Whatever the plot, the assassination left Vice President Andrew Johnson to assume Lincoln's place. Johnson, a tailor by trade, was from Tennessee and was serving as United States Senator from Tennessee when the War Between the States began. When Southern states began to secede from the Union, he was the only southern senator who did not secede with his state. Johnson owned a few slaves and voted often with the proslavery senators, but he represented the small Southern farmers and not the big landowners. Although a Southerner, he was more strongly pro-Union than he was proslavery.

In 1864 Johnson had been nominated as Lincoln's Vice-President by the National Union Party. This party was a combination of "War" Democrats, who supported the Union, and Republicans.

After Lincoln's assassination President Johnson wanted to continue Lincoln's policies in the South. The Radicals, however, would have none of it. They were more determined than ever to be "harsh" with the South, and popular sentiment was in their favor.

71. After the war the South was in _____.
72. The abrupt end of _____, along with _____ devastation was a hard blow to _____ of the South.
73. Financially insolvent means _____.
74. Radical Republicans wanted to _____ the South for leaving the Union.
75. a. Who shot President Lincoln? _____
b. Where did the shooting take place? _____
76. _____ became President after Lincoln was killed.

3. Reconstruction Program. The leader of the Radical Republicans was Congressman Thaddeus Stevens of Pennsylvania. His desire was to rid the South of the old landowning aristocracy that had controlled it through the years. Stevens proposed that Southern lands be divided among the small farmers, but such forced redistribution of land holdings would have been nothing short of socialism. Stevens' objective and that of Radical Republicans can best be summed up in Stevens' own words, "The whole fabric of southern society must be changed and never can it be done if this opportunity is lost." In this statement is found the objective of the program of Reconstruction carried out by the Radical Republicans.

The Reconstruction Program of the Radical Republicans may be summarized in four parts:

a.) Civil Rights Act of 1866. This act was passed over President Johnson's veto. It prohibited discrimination by a state on the basis of race. The Act was aimed at doing away with the Black Codes, which placed severe restrictions on the rights of the blacks.

b.) Freedman's Bureau Act of 1866. This act was also passed over President Johnson's veto. The Bureau provided the ex-slaves with food, clothes, schooling, and jobs. It also attempted to protect their civil rights. To accomplish these ends, the force of the military was often employed.

c.) Fourteen Amendment (1866). This had five basic parts:

- (1) All former slaves were declared citizens.
- (2) No state could deny any person full equality before the law.
- (3) Any state that did deny equality would lose representation.
- (4) Congress would not pay the Confederate war debt.
- (5) All former officeholders in the Confederacy were barred from holding office unless pardoned by Congress.

d.) Reconstruction Act of 1867. This, too, was a piece of legislation passed over Johnson's veto. Under this Congressional Act, the South was divided into five military districts, each governed by a military commander and troops. The military governor was to register veto. In order for a state to be free of military rule and be readmitted to the Union, that state had to do three things:

- (1) Each state had to have an open election.
- (2) Each state had to guarantee black suffrage.
- (3) Each state had to ratify the Fourteenth Amendment

4. Impeachment of President Johnson. Radical Reconstruction began in 1867. The Radical Republicans had gained over three-fourths control of Congress in both houses. The Reconstruction Acts of 1866 and 1867 were all vetoed by President Johnson, but they were then passed in spite of the President's veto. Johnson's conflict with Congress reached up into the Cabinet where he was doing battle with "radical" Secretary of War Edwin Stanton. Problems related to Reconstruction and efforts to remove Stanton brought about Johnson's impeachment against him. In the Senate trial, Johnson missed being removed from office by just one vote.

5. "Carpetbaggers." Under Radical Reconstruction, the South suffered. Great Southern leaders and much of the old aristocracy were unable to vote or hold office. The result was that state legislatures were filled with illiterate or incompetent men. Northerners who were eager to make money or gain power during the crisis rushed to the South. These men were called "carpetbaggers" because of the cloth suitcases they carried. For all these reasons, Reconstruction led to graft and corruption and reckless spending.

In retaliation many southerners formed secret organizations to protect themselves and their society from anarchy. Among these groups was the Ku Klux Klan, a clandestine group of white men who went forth at night dressed in white sheets and pointed white hoods. They used violence to intimidate and terrorize blacks and whites alike whom they considered to be a threat to their way of life.

77. Leader of the Radical Republicans was Congressman _____ from _____.
78. List the four parts of the Reconstruction Program of the Radical Republicans.
- a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
79. President Johnson missed being removed from office by just _____ vote by impeachment.
80. Northerners who were eager to make money or gain power during the crisis in the South were called "_____" because of the _____ suitcases they carried.
81. a. Many southerners formed secret _____ to protect themselves and their society from anarchy.
- b. One of these groups was the _____.

B. The New South

The election of 1868 was a very important one in that Republicans and Democrats viewed Reconstruction in the South very differently. The election pitted Republican Ulysses S. Grant, in great part due to his military service and acclaim, came out the victor. His slogan during the campaign was “Let Us Have Peace.”

In 1872 the Amnesty Act forgave 150,000 former Confederates and removed the limitation for voting and holding political office. Although Union troops were still present in the South, by 1870 all former Confederate States had been readmitted to the Union.

In 1877 Rutherford B. Hayes took office as President after a very close election, which had to be settled by a committee. President Hayes, to strengthen his position, withdrew Federal troops from the South. This act allowed the South to return to Democratic leadership, which remained strong in the South for many years.

The South began to rebuild, but it would remain a rural area for several years. Because plantation owners had no slaves to farm their land, the farming began to be done by sharecroppers and tenant farmers.

Most sharecroppers were blacks. A sharecropper and his family worked the land for the owner in exchange for a house, a mule, tools, seeds, and other supplies furnished by the landowner. The sharecropper also received credit at the local general store. The yield each year from the sharecropper's labors went to pay the landlord and the storekeeper.

Most tenant farmers were whites. They also worked the land of a large landowner, but they supplied their own mule, plow, seeds, and other supplies. They paid rent by giving the landowner one-third or one-half of the crop.

Through the years the South has gradually become more industrial. Textile mills, lumber mills, steel mills, automobile factories, airplane factories, and many other industries have been established in the South. In Texas and Louisiana, oil has become very important.

Industrialization has enticed many Southerners to move to big cities such as Houston, Dallas, and Atlanta. Today as one drives in the South, he may see the ruins of old, abandoned farm homes. The families who lived in these houses have died or moved to the city.

82. By 1870 all former _____ had been readmitted to the Union.

83. Most plantation owners had _____ and _____ to do there farming.
84. a. Sharecroppers worked the _____ in exchange for a house, mule, tools, seeds and other supplies and _____ at the general store.
- b. The crop yield paid the _____ and the _____.
85. Tenant farmers supplied their own needs and paid _____ by giving the landowner of one-third or one-half of the _____.