

## Civil War- 1863-1864

### Motivation for War:

- At first, the Civil War was not a war against **slavery**. It began as a war to preserve the **union** not to end slavery.
- President Lincoln had to handle the slavery issue **cautiously** – because four “slave states” remained in the Union and Lincoln didn’t want them to shift their loyalty.
- However, aware of the public’s growing support of **abolishing** slavery, Lincoln decided to free enslaved African Americans living in the **Confederate states**. In the four slave states, however, slaves **would not be freed**.
- Lincoln’s reasoning was to **weaken the south** without angering slave owners in the north.
- To avoid making his announcement appear as a last, desperate effort to save a **losing** cause, President Lincoln waited for a Union **victory** to announce his plans.
- The **Battle of Antietam** (September 17, 1862) gave him his chance!

### “Preliminary “Emancipation Proclamation”

- **President Lincoln**- issued on September 22, 1862
- On January 1, 1863, anyone held as a slave in a state still in rebellion against the United States will be emancipated (**Freed**).
- Slaves in states that return to the **Union** prior to January 1, 1863, shall remain enslaved.

### Emancipation Video Question:

- 1) How did the Emancipation Proclamation affect the war? It changed the reason for fighting, encouraged African Americans to join.

### Emancipation Proclamation- took effect January 1, 1863

- Since the rebelling states were not under Union control, **no slaves** actually gained their freedom on January 1, 1863.
- But, the Emancipation Proclamation **changed the character** of the war. Now, **Union troops were fighting to end slavery as well as to preserve the Union**
- The Proclamation also prompted a wave of support for the Union from **Free African Americans**.

### ***The Battle of Chancellorsville*** Virginia – May 1863

- In this battle, General Robert E. Lee and General “Stonewall” Jackson again **outwitted** the Union army. Lee and Jackson defeated the Union in three days.
- Although the South won the battle, it suffered a severe **loss!**
- At dusk, Confederate guards fired shots at what they thought was a **union soldier** riding toward them.
- The “Union soldier”, it turned out, was **Stonewall Jackson**

### ***The death of “Stonewall” Jackson***

- “Stonewall” Jackson **died** as a result of his injuries several days (8) later in a plantation office.

### ***The Vicksburg Campaign***

- General **Ulysses S Grant** won several victories around Vicksburg, Mississippi.
- On May 22, Grant began a **siege** of the city.
- Six weeks later, Vicksburg fell under Union control, which **placed the entire Mississippi River** in Union hands.

### ***The Gettysburg Campaign*** July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1863

- General Robert E. Lee defeated Union forces in Virginia on June 13, 1863 and continued north to Pennsylvania.
- On July 1<sup>st</sup> a chance encounter between Union and Confederate forces began the **Battle of Gettysburg.**
- In the fighting that followed, the Union had greater **numbers** and better **defensive** positions.

### **Cemetery Ridge**

- On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, Confederate General *James Longstreet* urged General Lee to March south, which would force the Union army to come after them. This, he argued, would allow for a more favorable battlefield.
- General Lee **disagreed** and ordered an **attack** he would later regret.

### ***Pickett’s Charge***

- On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, General Lee ordered **15,000** men under General *George Pickett* to **charge** Cemetery Ridge.
- In the charge, row after row of Confederates dropped to the ground.
- In the end, Pickett’s charge failed – General Lee took the blame.
- The Confederates would never again **invade the north** The war had reached the **turning point**

## **The Gettysburg Address**

- The *Battle of Gettysburg* left more than **40,000** dead or wounded. On November 19, 1863, *President Lincoln* dedicated a portion of the Gettysburg battlefield as a national **cemetery** and delivered his memorable **Gettysburg Address**

## **Gettysburg Address Video Question-**

- 1) Gettysburg is known as the **worst** battle of the war.
- 2) Lincoln explained that those who died did so to preserve what? **Our Democracy**

## **Battle of Chickamauga** (Tennessee / Georgia border)

- On November 23 – 25, **Union** forces pushed **Confederate** forces away from Chattanooga, TN.
- This victory set the stage for what would become Union **General Sherman's** "march" through Georgia.

## **Ulysses S. Grant**

- In 1864, President Lincoln appointed **General Ulysses S. Grant** as commander of the Union forces.