

Abraham Lincoln, Great American President

"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." This famous line from the Gettysburg Address is one of the most famous lines from the speech for which Abraham Lincoln is best remembered. I believe that Abraham Lincoln was one of the greatest presidents of our nation. He kept the Union and the country together during the Civil War; he issued the Emancipation Proclamation that declared slaves free; and his character was one that represented American values such as integrity, compassion, and persistence.

President Lincoln did not want to go to war, but he had no choice. He wanted to uphold the Constitution in which no state had the right to secede. When the Southern States started to secede from the Nation, he tried to negotiate with them. However, the south wanted to become their own country. His main goal as President was to keep the Union together, including the South. He gave famous speeches and wrote letters to all those who opposed him.

President Lincoln believed that freeing slaves was the right thing to do. At first, he was not going to interfere with the states who allowed slavery. However, as the war continued he issued the Emancipation Proclamation which ordered the freeing of slaves if the Southern States did not stop their rebellion.

President Lincoln was known for many honorable character traits such as integrity, compassion, and persistence. He was known as "Honest Abe." He got this title from his earlier years. He treated his customers while he was a storekeeper with kindness and honesty. Also, he was always chosen as judge in local contests because

of his fairness. Later stories recorded of him as a Postal Agent show that he always reported the exact amount of money that was due. As a lawyer and a politician, the stories continued. As President, his speeches and goals reflected keeping promises which he fought hard to keep.

Abraham Lincoln was President of the United States during very difficult times. Our nation was never so divided, which is why I believe he was such a great President. He fought hard to keep our nation together. He issued the Emancipation Proclamation which freed slaves in the Southern States. Most importantly, President Lincoln kept a moral and ethical character all of his life which became symbols of American values. He was a man of integrity, compassion, and persistence. He was "Honest Abe."

Word Count: 425