

Co-op 11
Weeks 24-25
February 17, 2022

Accountability Questions:

1. What were the two competing theories of the South's post-war status in the minds of Washington lawmakers during the early days of Reconstruction, according to your reading in *The Civil War: 1850-1895*, page 166?
2. Summarize the features of Lincoln's plan for Reconstruction and the central goal that his plan revealed.
3. What plan for Reconstruction did President Johnson initiate while Congress was out of session in the summer and fall of 1865?
4. What does the Fifteenth Amendment guarantee?

Thinking Questions:

1. What position regarding the war did McClellan take as he ran for president against Abraham Lincoln? How did the American people respond? Why do you think this was so?
2. What kind of tone was Lincoln seeking to set for the end of the war? How did his generals follow his directions when accepting the surrenders of Southern generals?
3. Read Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address, and prepare to discuss the profound thoughts that he expressed there concerning eternal views of the Civil War. Just make some notes - highlight or underline things in the speech included here.

- ☐ Was the Civil War, as Lincoln said, a judgment on all Americans for their toleration of, or active participation in, slavery?
- ☐ What do you think are the "fundamental and astounding" results to which Lincoln alludes?
- ☐ Both Northerners and Southerners, says Lincoln, prayed to the same God. Why could the prayers of both not be answered?
- ☐ What is Lincoln saying that the war tempts men to believe, since their prayers are not being answered as they desire?
- ☐ What does Lincoln affirm in response?
- ☐ For what sins does Lincoln say that both North and South may have deserved the scourging of the Lord?
- ☐ What makes Lincoln's speech a balanced treatment of North and South?

4. How did matters stand concerning Reconstruction when Johnson left office? Who replaced him as president?

CHURCH HISTORY:

The Civil War as a Theological Crisis, by Mark A. Noll

Please read pages 58-61 for our discussion on Thursday. I will attach them to the assignment shortly.

Consider the following questions. You do not need to write out answers to these, but please look for answers to them as you read.

1. What does Noll mean when he says that the “negro question” lay far deeper than the “slavery question”?
2. What does the Bible say about race in relation to slavery, and why was this so hard for American Christians to recognize, given their assumptions and prejudices?
3. Noll takes four pages (58-61) to explain the argument of Moses Stuart concerning the justification for Southern slavery and then to point out the ways that this careful Bible scholar made assumptions about race that undermined his own argument. What was Stuart’s basic argument, and what were the two faulty assumptions that Stuart imported into it?
4. What arguments were advanced about the color-blindness of biblical slavery in antebellum America?
5. Summarize the various arguments that black writers and theologians advanced against slavery.
6. In summing up the chapter, Noll states reasons why even the most compelling arguments of the pre-war era failed to convince white Americans to abandon slavery. What were these reasons?

Readings WEEK 24:

☐ Eyewitness to the Civil War, by Hyslop and Kagan (973) p. 246-283, 293-341, and 351-377 (Read the main narrative.)

☐ Optional: Eyewitness to the Civil War, by Hyslop and Kagan (973) p. 246-376 (eyewitness accounts and essays interspersed throughout)

☐ Optional: The Civil War: 1850-1895, edited by Auriana Ojeda (973) p. 123-134

Church History/Worldview:

☐ The Civil War as a Theological Crisis, by Mark A. Noll, chapter 4 (Week 3 of 4)

WEEK 25:

☐ Eyewitness to the Civil War, by Hyslop and Kagan (973) p. 385-397

☐ The Civil War: 1850-1895, edited by Auriana Ojeda (973) p. 136-174

Church History/Worldview:

☐ The Civil War as a Theological Crisis, by Mark A. Noll (277) chapter 5 and p. 159- 162 (“Before and After 1865”) (Week 4 of 4)

SUPPLEMENTAL:

☐ Dreams of Iron and Steel, by Deborah Cadbury (909) chapter 5 (Week 2 of 4)

Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address

"Fellow countrymen: at this second appearing to take the oath of the presidential office there is less occasion for an extended address than there was at the first. Then a statement somewhat in detail of a course to be pursued seemed fitting and proper. Now, at the expiration of four years during which

public declarations have been constantly called forth on every point and phase of the great contest which still absorbs the attention and engrosses the energies of the nation little that is new could be presented. The progress of our arms, upon which all else chiefly depends is as well known to the public as to myself and it is I trust reasonably satisfactory and encouraging to all. With high hope for the future no prediction in regard to it is ventured.

"On the occasion corresponding to this four years ago all thoughts were anxiously directed to an impending civil war. All dreaded it ~ all sought to avert it. While the inaugural address was being delivered from this place devoted altogether to saving the Union without war insurgent agents were in the city seeking to destroy it without war ~ seeking to dissolve the Union and divide effects by negotiation. Both parties deprecated war but one of them would make war rather than let the nation survive, and the other would accept war rather than let it perish. And the war came.

"One eighth of the whole population were colored slaves not distributed generally over the union but localized in the southern part of it. These slaves constituted a peculiar and powerful interest. All knew that this interest was somehow the cause of the war. To strengthen perpetuate and extend this interest was the object for which the insurgents would rend the Union even by war while the government claimed no right to do more than to restrict the territorial enlargement of it. Neither party expected for the war the magnitude or the duration which it has already attained. Neither anticipated that the cause of the conflict might cease with or even before the conflict itself should cease. Each looked for an easier triumph and a result less fundamental and astounding. Both read the same Bible and pray to the same God and each invokes His aid against the other. It may seem strange that any men should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men's faces but let us judge not that we be not judged. The prayers of both could not be answered ~ that of neither has been answered fully. The Almighty has His own purposes. "Woe unto the world because of offenses for it must needs be that offenses come but woe to that man by whom the offense

cometh." If we shall suppose that American slavery is one of those offenses which in the providence of God must needs come but which having continued through His appointed time He now wills to remove and that He gives to both North and South this terrible war as the woe due to those by whom the offense came shall we discern therein any departure from those divine attributes which the believers in a living God always ascribe to Him. Fondly do we hope ~ fervently do we pray ~ that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondsman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword as was said three thousand years ago so still it must be said 'the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.'

"With malice toward none with charity for all with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right let us strive on to finish the work we are in to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan ~ to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."