Pillars of Culture:
50 People who Made America Great

This chapter requires a companion activity book in which students respond to questions on text content. Answers are found in the Teacher's Resource Kit.



Chapter 3
Text

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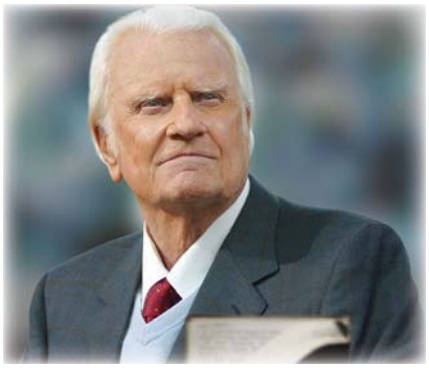
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Pillars of Culture
Culture Changers



Chapter 3, Section 1
Topics 1-5



Billy Graham

Most farm boys don't become famous, but a lanky six-feet two-inch tall lad from North Carolina grew up to be called, "The president's evangelist." Billy Graham was born on a dairy farm in 1918. He was an energetic outdoorsman, who liked to fish, hunt, and spend time in the woods. Billy became a Christian at age 16 in a revival meeting held by Mordecai Ham; however, Billy's rambunctious behavior got him into difficulty more than once before he graduated from high school. He was a good son, but every-once-in-a-while "the old sin nature" got ahold of him and was expressed through pranks and "fooling around." None-the-less, Billy went off to college at Bob Jones University. He didn't stay long because the campus rules were considered to be too strict.

His college education was continued in Florida and Illinois, where he earned a degree in Anthropology. While at Wheaton College, Billy Graham came to the conclusion that the Bible was the ***infallible*** Word of God, published to reconnect humanity with the Creator through Jesus Christ and to help readers discover the meaning of life and love. At age 30, Billy was appointed as President of Northwestern Bible College in Minnesota. He and Ruth Bell were married and had five children during ***subsequent*** years. While living in Minnesota, Billy began to hold ***crusades*** in other states. He also started a radio broadcasting program, called *The Hour of Decision*, which featured Gospel music and sermons. It was broadcasted for more than 50 years. Eventually, his crusades were aired on television.

In 1949, Billy held a tent crusade in Los Angeles, California. Large crowds of people showed up, causing local newspapers to splash front-page headlines which reverberated across the nation. Suddenly, Billy Graham was in big demand as an evangelist. He began to hold crusades in large churches, sports stadiums, parks, and in circus-size tents. Invitations from around the world flooded into his Minnesota office. So many people attended his meetings that thousands of volunteers had to be ***solicited*** to counsel people

VOCABULARY

Infallible: without error, true, absolute
Subsequent: that which follows
Crusades: meetings with large crowds
Solicited: collected

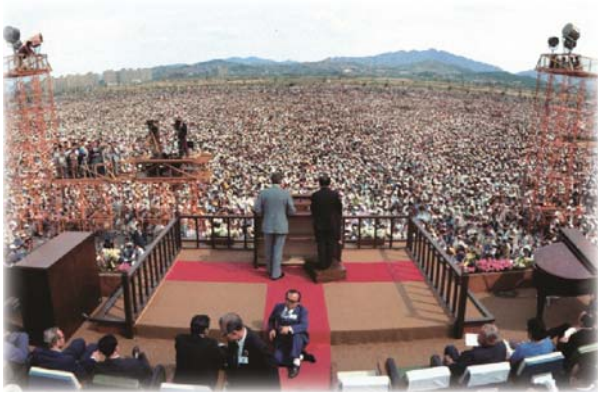
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who inquired about ***salvation*** and eternal life. Before his death at age 99 on February 21, 2018, Billy Graham spoke in 185 countries to an estimated 2.2 billion people, more than any other human in history.

Graham was a ***staunch*** opponent of communism, racial prejudice, abortion, radical demonstrations, and financial corruption. He focused on fulfilling his ***calling*** as a preacher of the Gospel, even though he was offered ***ambassadorships*** and other high government and private positions. He urged Christians to vote Biblical values, rather than be supportive of political party labels. He believed that marriage should be between one man and one woman, and that motherhood is a noble and high calling, for which women ought not apologize.

Billy was honored with awards, including Knighthood by Queen Elizabeth of England, the National Religious Broadcaster Award of Merit, the Congressional Gold Medal, and the Ronald Reagan Freedom Award. He spoke to New York City crowds of thousands at Carnegie Hall, Central Park, and Yankee Stadium. He filled ***coliseums*** in China, the Soviet Union, and South America. Billy Graham earned respect for his integrity, humility, and commitment to preach the "whole truth" of the Bible. He avoided politics, but was a frequent visitor at the White House as a guest of Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, and Ronald Reagan. Thus, Billy Graham was called, "the presidents' evangelist." He was proclaimed as "the man who showed America how to live."



One of Graham's Enormous Rallies

Thousands of people walked by his casket as it lay in the Billy Graham Center in North Carolina and in the US Capital. He is among the four civilians whose bodies have been viewed in the US Capital.

VOCABULARY

Salvation: accepting the gift of God's forgiveness
Staunch: firm, committed
Calling: profession, career
Ambassadorships: representatives for government in foreign lands
Coliseums: stadiums

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"When wealth is lost, nothing is lost; when health is lost, something is lost; when character is lost, all is lost."
-Billy Graham, evangelist

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Pillars of Culture
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Chapter 3, Section 1
Topics 1-5



George Washington Carver

Born a slave, George Washington Carver was at a disadvantage from the moment he was born. It would be hard to find a person with a more difficult beginning. The challenges ***escalated*** out of control when, just a week after George was born, masked ***raiders*** captured George, his mother and sisters, and re-sold them as slaves. Later, infant George was rescued and returned to his former owner, a White man whose last name was Carver. History has no record of the fate of George's mother.

After the Civil War (1861-1865), George was legally free, but his age made him dependent on the Carvers for food, clothing, and shelter. Thus, he was invited to stay with the Carver family. He was taught to read the Bible, which led him to become a Christian. His humble and meek temperament equipped him to spend many hours alone in the woods, where he observed the ***unique*** features of plants. He was a talented artist, and began to make notes and sketches of his observations. He attended a small rural school for Black children, where he demonstrated intelligence and strong study habits. He also learned to sing songs about his Christian faith.

George acquired friends easily because of his politeness and pleasant personality. His hunger for knowledge drew the attention of local people, who encouraged George to go to college. That was a great challenge for a Black orphan, especially when African-American youth were not permitted to enroll in most colleges. However, George was accepted as the first Black student at Iowa State College. There, he excelled in the study of ***botany***, and spent many hours in the forest, studying and drawing plants and insects. He developed the habit of sitting quietly while thinking not only about living creatures and plants, but about mankind's relationship with the Creator. Later in life, he was heard to say, "Reading about nature is fine, but if a person walks in the woods and listens carefully, he can learn more than what is in books, for they (things of nature) speak with the voice of God."

VOCABULARY

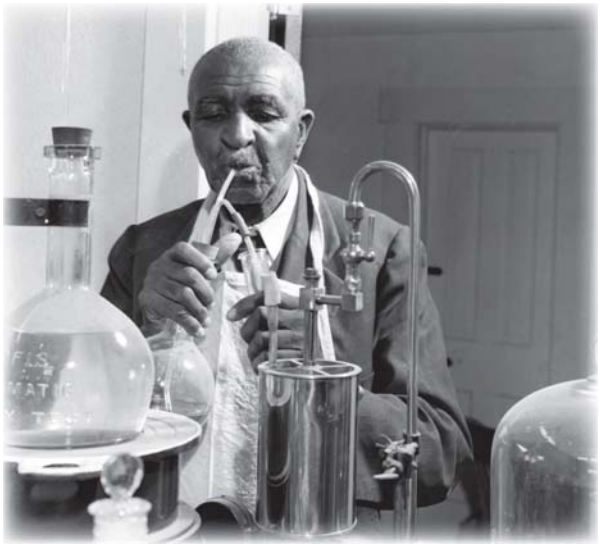
Escalated: increased, grew rapidly
Raiders: men who stole Blacks to sell into slavery
Unique: different, specific
Botany: study of plants

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George began to ***meditate*** on ways in which he could apply his knowledge and skills to help Black people get out of poverty and dependence on other people. After he graduated with honors, George was recruited by Booker T. Washington to move to Alabama to join the faculty of Tuskegee Institute, a school for Black students. There, George set up a laboratory to study the effects of ***boll weevils*** and crop rotation on cotton fields. He conducted extensive experiments with peanuts, which enrich soil, in-order-to develop an alternative to raising cotton, which depleted the soil after several years of continuous growth. George developed hundreds of new uses and products from peanuts, sweet potatoes, and other food crops. Black ***share-croppers*** began to earn money to buy their own land and become independent farmers. They learned to be self-sufficient through labor and knowledge.

Dr. Carver never married. He devoted his entire life to serving people. One of his most remarkable insights was, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these." His fame as a scientist spread worldwide. Presidents and professors sought his advice on agricultural matters. He is ***commemorated*** on postage stamps, school buildings, street signs, monuments, and in books, movies, and scientific journals. George Washington Carver was a pillar of American culture, worthy of honor and praise.



Carver Working in his Lab

VOCABULARY

Meditate: think, reflect on
Boll weevils: small insect that destroys cotton plants
Share-croppers: people who farmed on land owned by someone else
Commemorated: honored, acknowledged

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"Fear of something is at the root of hate for others, and hate within will eventually destroy the hater."
-George Washington Carver, scientist

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James Dobson

Dr. James Dobson, psychologist, consistently warns Americans of negative consequences on culture with loss of the nuclear family, composed of one man and one woman with their biological and/or adopted children. James was born in Louisiana in 1936 to Nazarene parents, whose Biblical training ***infused*** strong beliefs that American culture can be ***sustained*** only by ***adhering*** to Judeo-Christian principles and values. After graduating from the University of Southern California, with a Ph.D. in psychology, he served for more than 14 years at a children's hospital. While working with families, Dobson observed that many children were disobedient and undisciplined. He felt compelled to address that issue. Thus, in 1970, he wrote *Dare To Discipline*, that became a best seller, and propelled Dr. Dobson into the public spotlight.

He began to accept invitations to speak to groups interested in learning how to train children for successful adulthood. He started a radio program called, *Focus on the Family*, that eventually was aired on more than 7,000 radio stations in 164 countries, with 220 million listeners. He became the nation's most admired authority on child-training and family issues. His advice was sought by presidents, parents, and professors worldwide. He was appointed to national-level task forces organized to deal with family issues. He continued to conduct seminars, make broadcasts, and write books, including *Marriage Under Fire*, *The Strong-Willed Child*, and *Boys Under Fire*. He believes that abortion is murder, and that promiscuity, homosexuality, ***transgender*** confusion, and ***sensual obsessions*** are the result of faulty parental training rather than ***genes***.

In 1981, Dr. Dobson founded the Family Research Council, and appointed Gary Bauer as director. Through that organization and Focus on The Family radio broadcasts, Dobson and Bauer promoted public policy designed to support the nuclear family, school choice, and ***evangelical*** involvement in politics. At the same time, Dobson became a spokesman for Intelligent Design,



Infused: put into
Sustained: kept intact
Adhering: sticking to, following
Transgender: person who identifies as the opposite gender
Sensual: sexual desires
Obsessions: abnormal focus
Genes: physical features established at conception
Evangelical: Christian lifestyle

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and opposed evolution being taught as fact in public schools. He warned that secular schools that prohibit student-led prayers and Bible studies will produce a generation of students who ***disdain*** the national motto, "In God We Trust", and that the consequences on American culture will be devastating. He points out that the rise of homosexuality, fatherless homes, transgender confusion, violent crime, illiteracy, and "dumbing down" of American students are direct consequences of public schools stripped of Judeo-Christian values.



Dr. James Dobson

In his senior years, Dr. Dobson resigned from Focus on the Family, but he remains an ***advocate*** of core values that built America as a great nation. He often states that "Defense of the family is the most critical issue in America." He said, "Every civilization in the world has been built on marriage between one man and one woman." His wife, Shirley, started the National Day of Prayer to encourage Christians to pray for public leaders to turn America back to God. Dr. Dobson remarked that parents who love their children ought to remove them from secular schools before they are convinced that obedience to God is not necessary for families and the nation to survive. In 2005, Dr. Dobson was recognized by The Society of World Changers, and Focus on the Family was inducted into the National Radio Hall of Fame in 2008. He is a pillar of culture who proclaims biblical ways to keep America a great nation.

VOCABULARY

Disdain: reject, dislike
Advocate: support, promote

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"If traditional marriage is not the law of the land, the institution of the family will cease to exist."
-James Dobson, author

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Pillars of Culture
Culture Changers



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Martin Luther King Jr.

When MLK Jr. was born in 1929, his parents never imagined he would be assassinated before age 40. Seventy years after Black slaves were ***emancipated*** by Republican President Abraham Lincoln, segregation (of "Negroes") was still practiced in southern states, and ***prejudices*** remained common in northern states. Martin Luther King Jr. grew up in Atlanta, Georgia during a time when Blacks were not treated with equality by Whites.

Throughout southern states, African-Americans were subjected to ***segregation*** and "***Jim Crow***" laws in churches, housing districts, restaurants, schools, voting booths, and on buses. Martin's father was a Baptist preacher, who taught his son that all people should be treated equally and honestly, based on Bible principles. At various times during childhood, Martin received spankings for demonstrating behavior that was not consistent with his father's training. Martin learned to sing at church, and developed good ***oratorical*** skills by the time he finished high school at age 15. He graduated from college, and became pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church at age 25. His understanding of the impartial love of God toward all people caused him to be uncomfortable with the ***humiliating*** way that Blacks were treated. He married Coretta Scott, who birthed four children.



Emancipated: set free
Prejudices: unreasonable beliefs
Segregation: division of society based on race
Jim Crow: laws designed to restrict voting by Blacks
Oratorical: speaking ability
Humiliating: degrading, hurtful
Escalated: sped up, increased
Characterized: defined, identified
Era: time in history

In 1955, Rosa Parks, a Black lady, boarded a city bus in Montgomery, Alabama. She was too exhausted to move to the back of the bus, as required by Alabama law for Black people. She was arrested. Martin Luther heard about the incident and objected to the unfair treatment of Rosa. When the court ruled in favor of Rosa Parks, the reputation of Martin Luther King ***escalated*** nationwide. He became a leader of the Civil Rights Movement that ***characterized*** much of the ***era*** of the 1960s and 1970s. Evangelist Billy Graham befriended Martin when he was arrested in 1962 for leading peaceful demonstrations to bring media attention to the Civil Rights Movement.

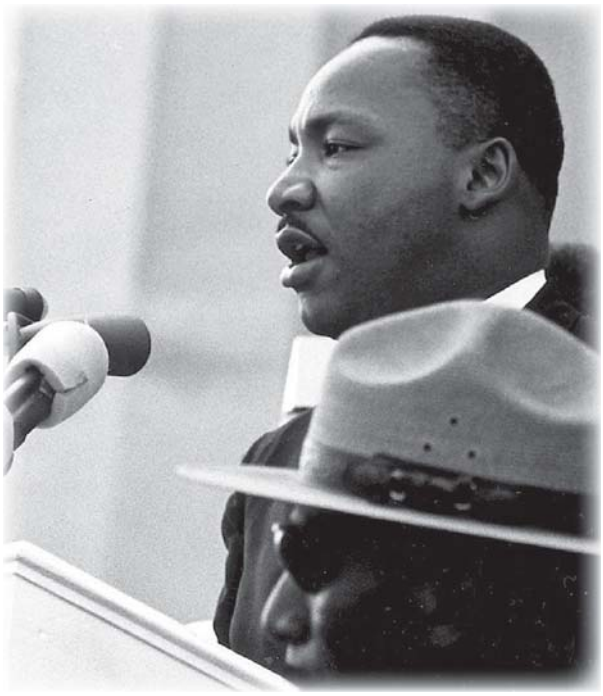
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Later, Dr. King became associated with numerous "***free thinkers***" who promoted Islamic, socialistic, and communistic tactics of violence, ***insurrection***, and civil disobedience as means to gain equality for Blacks. Consequently, many well-intentioned Black leaders, including Martin Luther, lost some ***credibility*** when they became involved in anti-American efforts that ***tarnished*** the ***legitimacy*** of the civil rights efforts to ***eradicate*** segregation.

In 1963, Martin Luther King gave a speech entitled, "I Have A Dream" to several hundred thousand people in Washington, D.C. That speech emphasized equality among people, and it became popular in textbooks, movies, and magazines. During his lifetime, Dr. King received many awards, including the Nobel Peace Prize, in recognition of his brave efforts to remove "Jim Crow" Laws, segregation, and prejudices against African-American people. Tragically, Martin Luther King was ***assassinated*** at the age of 39 on April 4, 1968 by James Earl Ray at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee.

Martin Luther King Jr. was a young man whose zeal for equality thrust him into the national spotlight during a tumultuous period in American history. His efforts earned him a place in history as an effective Civil Rights ***advocate*** and leader. He is honored on street signs, colleges, statues, and freeways. Martin Luther King's name appears on schools, scholarships, and buildings across America. He is the second non-president to receive ***designation*** for a national holiday. (Martin Luther King Jr. Day is observed on the third Monday of January.)



King Delivering his Famous "I Have A Dream" Speech

VOCABULARY

Free thinkers: expanded beliefs, out-of-the box
Insurrection: uprising; rebelliom
Credibility: reputation, trustworthiness
Tarnished: casted doubt on
Legitimacy: rightful, actual
Eradicate: get rid of, remove
Assassinated: killed, murdered
Advocate: promoter
Designation: assignment
Succumb: give in, yield to

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

*"Never **succumb** to the temptation of bitterness."*
-Martin Luther King, civil rights leader

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Pillars of Culture
Culture Changers



Chapter 3, Section 1
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Noah Webster

Portrait by James Herring

At age six, Noah Webster attended a one-room rural school in Connecticut. He hated it because the room was crowded with students ranging in ages from five to teenagers, and teachers were ill-prepared to ***accommodate*** such a wide span of student abilities. Moreover, they tried to teach with books published in England. Thus, the seeds were born in Noah Webster to make education more beneficial and specific for students and teachers in America.

A local preacher taught Latin and Greek to prepare Noah for admission to Yale College. He entered Yale at age 16, and attended classes during the War for Independence (1776-1783). He served in the American militia for a few months, and graduated from Yale in 1778. He taught school, but disliked the experience. Noah decided to become a lawyer, and passed the ***Bar*** in 1781.

Meanwhile, he studied more than two dozen languages in-order-to gain a thorough understanding of spelling, writing, and ***pronunciation*** of English words. Webster wrote and published the "Blue Backed Speller" in 1783. It became the main spelling book used in American schools, and sold in-excess-of 100 million copies during the next century. Noah started a private school in 1785, and began developing a grammar book and a reader for elementary schools. He worked for 28 years on developing a dictionary. His first dictionary was published in 1806, and contained 37,000 words. Eventually, the Webster dictionary contained more than 65,000 words ***derived*** from Latin, Greek, Spanish, French, German, and English ***origins***.

Noah earned a master's degree from Yale, and served in the Connecticut House of Representatives from 1802-1807). He married Rebecca Greenleaf, who birthed eight children. They were married 54 years. Noah Webster moved his family to New York City at the request of Alexander Hamilton, and became editor of The Federalist Party Newspaper. There, Noah became a "power house"

VOCABULARY

Accommodate: work with
Bar: exam to become a lawyer
Pronunciation: how words are spoken
Derived: made up, formed
Origins: beginnings, foundations

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of information on education and politics. He wanted American colonies to be defined by customs, words, speech, and values that were ***distinctly*** American, rather than British.

Noah Webster believed that American education should be practical for all students, and that they should begin learning the alphabet by age five, then proceed ***systematically*** through distinct sounds of vowels and consonants, then syllables, simple words, complex words, then sentences, and paragraphs. Throughout the educational process, students should develop intellect and ***virtue***. He wanted students to be patriotic and ***embrace*** moral values and virtues to preserve freedom.

Most parents in the 1800s believed that children should learn about God and Biblical values. But, because Webster's ***initial*** books were secular, he lost a great deal of ***market share*** when William McGuffey's *Eclectic Readers*, ***permeated*** with Biblical values, were introduced in 1840. They sold more than 120 million copies, and became America's textbooks. Later editions of Webster's dictionaries and "Blue Backed Spellers" ***emphasized*** Judeo-Christian values. Thus, McGuffey and Webster enabled American students to receive an education that prepared them to practice moral and responsible behavior that preserved the United States of America as a literate and free nation. Thus, Noah Webster and William McGuffey became educational pillars of American culture. They helped make America a great nation.



Portrait of Noah Webster by Samuel Morse

VOCABULARY

Distinctly: specific, clearly expressed
Systematically: precise, organized
Virtue: pureness, wholesomeness
Embrace: accept, learn
Initial: first
Market share: sales, revenue, profit
Permeated: filled with
Emphasized: stressed, put value on

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"Education is useless without the Bible. The Bible was America's basic textbook in all fields…(and) has furnished all necessary rules to direct our conduct."
-Noah Webster, author

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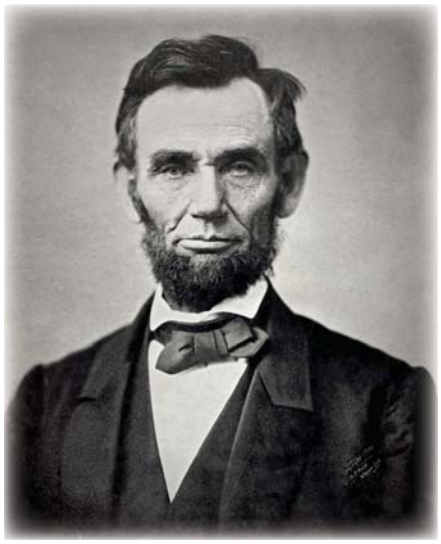
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Pillars of Culture
Statesmen



Chapter 3, Section 2
Topics 6-10



Abraham Lincoln

Being born in a log cabin (1809) deep in the Kentucky woods is not the ideal setting to prepare someone to become the 16th president of the United States. However, Abraham Lincoln grew up in such a place without indoor plumbing, electricity, or phones. Moreover, his mother died when Abe was nine years old. A stepmother taught Abe how to read, and provided a few books: a Bible, biographies of George Washington and Benjamin Franklin, *Aesop's Fables*, and *Pilgrim's Progress*. The Lincoln family moved to Illinois in 1831. There, Abe grew to 6 feet 4 inches tall, and developed a reputation as a good wrestler and ***rail splitter***. Although serious-natured, he had a sense of humor. Many people considered him to be rather homely: big ears, mole on his face, and ***gangly*** body.

Abe managed two country stores at different times, but both ***enterprises*** failed for reasons beyond his control. Soon after, he obtained a position as postmaster. He studied law, and opened his own law practice in 1837. Abe married Mary Todd; together, they had four children, of which three died before adulthood. Lincoln was a man of integrity, known as "honest Abe." Thus, Lincoln won the ***admiration*** of voters, who elected him to the Illinois Legislature. Later, he was elected to the United States Congress (1846-48). While in Congress, he spoke against slavery. He returned to Illinois and continued to oppose slavery. He conducted a series of campaign debates, called "the Lincoln-Douglas debates", in which he gained national recognition as a forceful defender of the US Constitution and advocate of the ***abolition*** of slavery. He won the debates, but lost the 1858 Senate election to Stephen Douglas; however, his oratorical skills propelled Lincoln into leadership in the Republican Party.

The ***prominent*** issue during the election of 1860 was whether to allow slavery in territories that would likely become states. The Republican Party supported abolition, while the Democrats defended states-rights and wanted to continue slavery

VOCABULARY

Rail splitter: someone who splits logs for building fences
Gangly: tall and thin
Enterprise: business
Admiration: respect
Abolition: get rid of
Prominent: well known
Secede: leave, withdraw

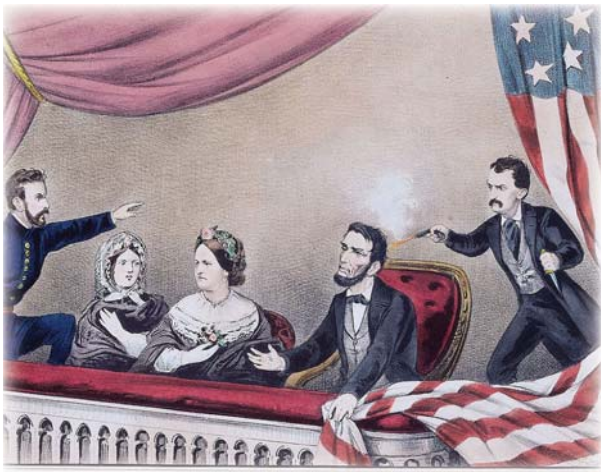
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to support cotton and tobacco plantations. During the debates, Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote a pro-abolitionist novel, called *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which inflamed southerners. They threatened to ***secede*** from the Union if Abraham Lincoln won the presidency. Lincoln was elected, and eleven southern states formed the Confederate States of America. Confederate troops then attacked Fort Sumter in South Carolina, thus igniting the bloody Civil War (1861-'65). During that horrible, ***divisive*** war, fathers and brothers fought against one another at such places as Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; Richmond, Virginia; and Atlanta, Georgia. More than 600,000 soldiers died of wounds and disease. While speaking at a ***commemorative*** service, Lincoln delivered the "Gettysburg Address"*, which became famous in schools and colleges. In 1862, Lincoln issued the ***Emancipation Proclamation***.

Union forces led by General Ulysses S. Grant defeated southern troops lead by General Robert E. Lee in 1865 to end the war. President Lincoln wanted to forgive southerners and rebuild the ***devastated*** southern economy without slave labor. However, a bitter Confederate man named John Wilkes Booth, crept into Ford Theater on April 14, 1865 and assassinated Mr. Lincoln.

Radical northern senators ***initiated*** a harsh ***reconstruction*** program led by ***carpetbaggers***, who ruled southern states with vengeance and ***vindictiveness***, driving Blacks into ***abject*** poverty and dependence on government welfare. Abraham Lincoln had wanted to avoid that. Lincoln remains one of the most admired presidents; his image is among the four faces carved on Mount Rushmore in South Dakota. Lincoln is remembered on money, memorials, monuments, parks, and stamps as a great American.



The Assassination of President Lincoln
by Currier & Ives

*Available on the internet and in America's Founding Fathers, Events, and Documents (www.pacworks.com).

VOCABULARY

Divisive: cause conflict, split
Commemorative: to be honored
Emancipation Proclamation: ordered all slaves to be free
Devastated: destroyed
Initiated: started, set in motion
Reconstruction: rebuilding
Carpetbaggers: Union men sent to supervise southern reconstruction
Vindictiveness: punish, get even with
Abject: hopeless

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"I will prepare, and someday my chance will come."
-Abraham Lincoln, US president

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Pillars of Culture
Statesmen



Chapter 3, Section 2
Topics 6-10



Calvin Coolidge

Most farm boys and girls grow up in ***obscurity***. While in school, they usually do not think about becoming president of the United States. Calvin Coolidge was like that. He was born on July 4, 1872 in a rural farm area of Vermont. His father was a ***blue-collar*** man who ***instilled*** in Calvin the value of hard work and a sense of responsibility and accountability for choices; his mother was a Christian lady who taught Calvin to practice honesty, integrity, courage, kindness, and loyalty. It was those character virtues that set Calvin apart from most young people.

Unfortunately, Mrs. Coolidge died when Calvin was age 12. His mother's death was ***devastating***; however, Calvin focused on serving his father and completing high school. Then, he finished college and moved to Massachusetts to practice law. He met and married Grace Anna Goodhue, who gave birth to two sons. The Coolidge family was happy, until sorrow struck again when one of the sons died. Calvin's Christian faith was shaken, and in a way, Calvin never fully recovered emotionally. He took a deep breath and channeled his thoughts, emotions, and energy into politics, and was elected Governor of Massachusetts in 1918. His administration was built on honesty, truth, fairness, and the philosophy that his decisions should be based on what was best for the people, rather than beneficial to special interest groups and politicians.

Coolidge shunned "***high society***", preferring quietness. He embraced conservative, Judeo-Christian values including private enterprise (capitalism), traditional marriage, plus limited government power and spending of tax money. His tough response to big union bosses earned a reputation for fairness. His popularity was ***headlined***, and he became Vice President to Warren Harding in 1921. Two years later, on August 3, 1923, Harding died while visiting western states, and suddenly Calvin Coolidge was the 30th President of the United States.

VOCABULARY

Obscurity: unknown
Blue-collar: work with hands, laborer
Instilled: taught
Devastating: severely hurtful
High society: elite, wealthy
Headlined: made famous

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His address to Congress in 1923 was the first presidential message delivered over radio. As president, Coolidge insisted that the federal government operate within its budget, rather than generate debt to be passed to the next generation. Mr. Coolidge supported women's ***suffrage***, citizenship for Native Americans, integration of Whites and Blacks, and prohibition of liquor sales. During his presidency, America experienced the "***Roaring Twenties***", a time when the nation was tired of war, poverty, and restraint. Young people wanted to party, have fun, drive automobiles, and experience America's economic ***prosperity***. They wanted "the good life."

Entrepreneurs provided such products as watches, cars, tractors, motorcycles, clothes, cooking utensils, telephones, bicycles, hats, furniture, stoves, and baseball bats. The culture generally discarded restraint, and lapsed into a social ***euphoria*** without regard for decency. Men accumulated debt in-order-to abuse ***bootleg*** alcohol, "***speakeasies***" and "loose women." The ***stock market*** surged as profits soared. Speculation and risk to make "fast money" drove the nation into debt. During his presidency (1923-'29), Calvin Coolidge grieved over the direction the nation pursued. He wanted citizens and politicians to practice restraint. He declined to candidate in 1928, and on October 24, 1929, the stock market crashed. Coolidge had warned of the pending economic ***calamity***, but his quiet voice was shouted down, and suddenly, the nation was plunged into the ***Great Depression***.



Calvin Coolidge

Calvin Coolidge is remembered as a statesman who worked to be a stabilizing force in maintaining America's greatness.

VOCABULARY

Suffrage: women's right to vote
Roaring Twenties: 1920s, loose living, "Party time"
Prosperity: wealthy, much money
Euphoria: a feeling of extreme happiness
Bootleg: illegal alcoholic beverages
Speakeasies: private nigh clubs that served alcoholic drinks
Stock market: organization were people invest money in companies
Calamity: destruction
Great Depression: 1929-'39 when thousands of people were hungry, homeless, and jobless

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"We cannot do everything at once, but we can do something at once."
-Calvin Coolidge, US president

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Pillars of Culture
Statesmen



Chapter 3, Section 2
Topics 6-10


Ronald Reagan



Out-of-the-box: not usual, unorthodox, different
Front-line: active combat
Compensated: replaced, substituted
Communist: atheistic, military rule, economy controlled by government
Alignment: agreement, shared
Conservative: traditional families, small government, constitutional law, anti-abortion
Free enterprise: capitalism, freedom to own a profitable business
Perspective: view of life
Demeanor: way of living, actions, expressions

History is made, and nations are changed by, ordinary people who do extra-ordinary acts. Such people also usually think "***out-of-the-box***" and accomplish things that were considered impossible. That was Ronald Reagan. He was born in Illinois in 1911, grew up there, and graduated from high school, where he was an average academic student, but he excelled in swimming, football, and acting. He attended a Christian college. Afterward, he became a radio sports announcer. He served in the US military during WWII, but poor eyesight prohibited him from ***front-line*** duty. He ***compensated*** by acting in military training films, which drew the attention of Hollywood film producers. After serving his tour of duty in the military, he moved to California, where he acted in more than 50 films, including westerns, military, documentaries, and high-drama mystery stories.

When he went to California, Reagan was a liberal democrat involved in politics associated with the movie industry during a time when ***communist*** agitators attempted to gain control of Hollywood. Reagan opposed socialism and communism, and in the process, realized that his loyalties were more in ***alignment*** with ***conservative*** republicans. In 1954, he was hired by General Electric (GE) Company to tour the nation as a spokesman for ***free enterprise***. He began to speak forcefully in favor of responsible government, while opposing big government policies that restricted freedom of private companies.

In 1964, Reagan began hosting a television program called, *Death Valley Day*s. The series made Reagan a house-hold name across America, as people embraced his conservative ***perspective*** on American culture. His pleasant ***demeanor***, gentle voice, and sincerity captured the affections of listeners. He was encouraged to candidate for governor of California, and was elected in 1967, and again in 1971. He made headlines by dealing firmly with rowdy college students who tried to take over college campuses. He became a popular Republican spokesman, and was elected as the

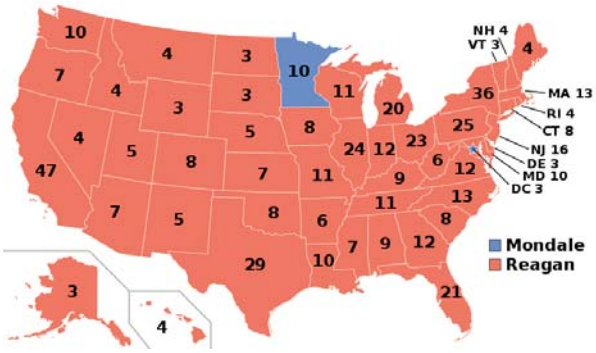
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40th President of the United States in 1980. He served two four-year terms, and survived an assassination attempt when John Henkley shot the president in the chest with a pistol at close range. After several weeks, Reagan recovered and was back in the ***Oval Office***. Newspapers displayed his smiling face as he waved to an admiring public.

During the ***Cold War*** with the Soviet Union during the 1980s, Reagan stood firm and forced the communists to draw back their plans to conquer the world with atomic warfare. His policy was expressed in the statement, "peace through strength." Reagan gained international respect when he said to the Soviet leader, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!" Two years later, the ***Berlin Wall*** was ***dismantled***. Reagan showed toughness toward ***rebels*** in Libya, Granada, and Nicaragua. He was a close friend of Margret Thatcher, Prime Minister of England. Together, they were ***instrumental*** in removing the "***Iron Curtain***" that sealed off Eastern Europe from the rest of the world. Reagan was committed to preserving freedom and is credited with ending the Cold War. He once said, "If we ever forget that we are one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under." Reagan died in June 2004. His funeral was broadcasted worldwide on television, as millions paid tribute to a great American who impacted history by his character, decisiveness, and integrity.

Ronald Reagan was so popular during his first term as president that, during his run for a second term in 1984, he received an astounding 525 electoral votes, winning everywhere except for Minnesota and Washington, D.C. To this day, no other president has ever received so many electoral votes, making it one of the largest presidential landslide victories in American history.



VOCABULARY

Oval Office: President's office in the White House
Cold War: 1980s when Russia and USA were in tense relations over use of atomic weapons
Berlin Wall: Wall dividing West and East Germany that became a symbol of the Cold War
Dismantled: broke up, dissolved
Rebels: thugs who promote social chaos through violence
Instrumental: played a major role in
Iron Curtain: militarized borders between European communist and free nations

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

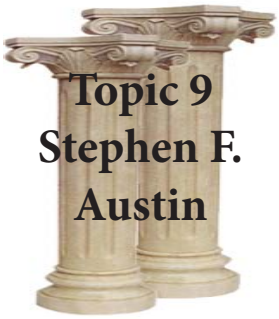
"Government's first duty is to protect the people, not run their lives."
-Ronald Reagan, US President

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Pillars of Culture
Statesmen



Chapter 3, Section 2
Topics 6-10



Stephen F. Austin

(Artist Unknown)

Most men do not plan to become heroes. They are usually people who happened to be in the right place at the right time with the character to do heroic ***exploits*** that earn fame and honor. That was the case with Stephen F. Austin in the early 1800s. He grew up in Missouri and went to college in Connecticut and Kentucky, where he became self-disciplined, studious, trustworthy, and ***diligent*** in pursuing goals. His father, Moses Austin, had obtained a grant from Spain to take settlers to "Tejas", part of the vast unsettled land west of the Louisiana Territory which French Dictator Napoleon sold to the United States in 1803. However, Moses Austin died shortly after the grant was issued. In the meantime, Mexico won its independence from Spain. ***Consequently***, the Austin land-grant was ***nullified*** by Mexico.

Stephen Austin traveled to Mexico City to gain permission to take his father's place as leader of the settlers. Thus, in 1823, he brought the first legal United States settlers to the land that eventually became Texas. That was also the time when Santa Anna began to rise to power and eventually establish a ***dictatorship***. The remote land north of the Rio Grande River was basically neglected by Mexican officials, who were occupied with matters ***pertaining*** to the new Republic of Mexico. Meanwhile, settlers continued to drift into "Tejas' to take advantage of 4000 free acres. However, Mexican ***Impresarios*** were not ***sympathetic*** to the American spirit of freedom and independence.

Stephen Austin acted on behalf of the Mexican government to survey land and issue property deeds to settlers. He was promised certain forms of payment for his duties. However, harsh economic conditions usually prevented settlers from being able to pay Austin. None-the-less, he continued to act in the best interest of Mexico and the settlers. Impresarios in Anahuac and other settlements began to abuse their authority over settlers. Consequently, ***skirmishes*** broke out, in which Mexican officials and American settlers were killed.

VOCABULARY

Exploits: achievements
Diligent: hardworking
Consequently: as a result
Nullified: made void, cancelled
Dictatorship: absolute power
Pertaining: regarding, applicable
Impresarios: local Mexican government officials
Sympathetic: ***c***are about, concerned with
Skirmishes: small battles

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Stephen Austin went to Mexico City to appeal to Santa Anna to allow Texas to become an independent state of Mexico, with settlers authorized to establish local rules. Austin was arrested, and placed in prison for two years. Meanwhile, the United States attempted to purchase Texas, which at that time was about the size of France. Santa Ana became alarmed, and sent General Cos with troops across the Rio Grande River to establish ***martial*** rule in Texas.

After his release from prison, Austin returned to Texas, where he advised setters that they had no choice but to rebel against Santa Anna's dictatorship. Sam Houston had assumed leadership of Texas settlers in Austin's absence. Houston and Austin began to organize resistance to Mexican ***jurisdiction*** over Texas. In February, 1836, Santa Anna led an army of several thousand Mexican soldiers to San Antonio, where 187 Texans had gathered at the ***Alamo***. After 19 days of ***siege***, the Alamo fell to Santa Anna's troops. All of its defenders lay dead. However, on April 21, 1836, Sam Houston's army defeated Santa Anna at San Jacinto. Thus, Texas gained its independence from Mexico, and became The Republic of Texas. In 1848, Texas was annexed to the United States. Today, Stephen F. Austin is considered "The Father of Texas" because of his heroic action to settle Texas and gain her independence from Mexico. He didn't plan to be a hero; he just performed his duty with honor; and in so doing helped mold and make America great.



The Alamo

VOCABULARY

Martial: military
Jurisdiction: authority
Alamo: Catholic mission station
Siege: constant attacks with cannons

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"The journey is always hard; don't give up."
-Stephen F. Austin, "Father of Texas"

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Pillars of Culture
Statesmen



Chapter 3, Section 2
Topics 6-10



Theodore Roosevelt

You would doubt that a sickly, ***asthmatic***, boy who wore thick eye glasses would become the 26th President of the United States, but, that is exactly what happened with Theodore Roosevelt in 1891. By that time, however, Theodore was a ***robust***, masculine man who stood 5 ft. 10 inches tall. He still wore thick glasses, but he was muscular, strong, fearless, and full of energy.

He was born in 1858 in New York, and was homeschooled by his mother. By age 16, he had learned ***taxidermy***, and formed a collection of animals he had trapped and stuffed. He was ***inquisitive***, and an ***avid*** reader of history, especially of heroes of the War for Independence, War of 1812, and (later) the Civil War. When Teddy Roosevelt departed for Harvard College in 1876, his father advised, "Take care of your morals first, your health next, and finally your studies." He struggled with mathematics and Greek, but excelled in science and history. He also developed skills as a boxer. He graduated 22nd of 177 students.

His first published book in 1881, *The Naval War of 1812*, met with rave reviews. Tragically, in 1884, his mother and wife died on the same day. Their loss plunged Theodore into grief; he felt depressed and disconnected from society. He bought a ranch in North Dakota, where he raised cattle, rode horses, built fences, and hunted. During that time of healing, Theodore developed stamina, a strong will, and ***undaunted*** courage. While in North Dakota, he read books about frontier life, and wrote, *Hunting Trips of a Ranchman*. Teddy remarried within two years. Allegedly, while on a hunting trip in the South, he refused to kill a trapped bear; thus, he was called a "Teddy bear." He disliked the name, but people ***affectionately*** called him, "Teddy." In 1889, the first two volumes of his famous *Winning the West* were published.

Teddy lost his cattle during a snow storm, and moved back to New York, where he plunged into politics. He was appointed as Under Secretary of the Navy in 1897. In April 1898, he left his

VOCABULARY

Asthmatic: difficult breathing
Robust: stout, healthy
Taxidermy: skill of stuffing animal skins in life-like form
Inquisitive: curious, inquire, check out
Avid: enthusiastic, vigorous
Undaunted: not discouraged, optimistic
Affectionately: expressed with kindness and love
The Rough Riders: military unit in Spanish-American War

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Navy post to form ***The Rough Riders*** to fight in the Spanish-American War. His combat courage at San Juan Heights won nation-wide respect. After the war ended, Teddy re-entered politics, where his ethics prompted him to practice The Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Consequently, Roosevelt gained enemies among politicians who used their elected positions for financial profit. He also gained followers, who admired his courage to oppose corruption. In November 1898, he was elected Governor of New York, during which time he earned a reputation as a "***bombastic***", effective, and fair leader. At the age of 42 years, he was selected as the vice-president for William McKinley in 1900. Six months later, Theodore became President of the United States when an ***anarchist*** assassinated McKinley.

During his presidency (1901-1909), Roosevelt expanded the US Navy to world-power status, enforced the ***Monroe Doctrine***, assumed construction of the ***Panama Canal*** in 1903, and established hundreds of national forests, parks, and ***monuments***. During his political carrier, he earned the reputation as a ***conservationist*** and aggressive leader, who did not tolerate corruption in government or industry. He became known as the "Trust buster," due to prosecuting companies for their monopolistic, anticompetitive practices. During a speech, he said, "Speak softly and carry a big stick, and you will go far." In 1912, a would-be assassin shot Teddy in the chest, but a metal eyeglasses case prevented the bullet from reaching Teddy's lungs. He finished his 90-minute speech while blood trickled down his shirt. That type of courage is what placed President Roosevelt's face alongside Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and George Washington on Mount Rushmore in South Dakota.



Theodore Roosevelt

VOCABULARY

Bombastic: energetic, showy, loud
Anarchist: someone against government
Monroe Doctrine: USA policy that forbade foreign nations from occupying any part of the American Northern Hemisphere
Panama Canal: shipping lane in the country of Panama
Monuments: statues, pillars, markers
Conservationist: person who protects the environment

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"A person trained in his mind, and not in his heart is a menace to society."
-Teddy Roosevelt, US President

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