

Frederick Douglass, Part II: Chapters 10-11: **The Civil War**

“Blows that hurt cleanse away evil, as do stripes the inner depths of the heart.” (Proverbs 20:30)

1. Which of the following was *not* a reason Frederick Douglass opposed John Brown’s raid on Harpers Ferry?

It would undermine Brown’s original plan of “running off slaves” to the mountains

It would cause the whole country (North and South) to oppose the abolitionist movement

It involved possible armed conflict between Brown’s force and soldiers or citizens

2. Give the definitions of the following words or terms Douglass uses in his narrative (use a dictionary and pay attention to the context in which the word is used):

1) Canvass (noun), p. 234:

2) Quail (verb), p 233, 236:

3) Miasmatic (adjective, p. 248:

3. Read Proverbs 20:19. How did Colonel Forbes illustrate the talebearer in this verse? Why do you think Douglass was cautious about him at first?

What was the result of Forbes’ talebearing on John Brown’s plans?

4. Read Proverbs 19:1 and consider how Douglass describes John Brown before his death. Which part of the verse do you think Brown exemplified? Why or why not?

5. Read Proverbs 19:20, 25, 27, 20:5, and 18. Give three examples of the assigned reading in Douglass where counsel was given. Identify the counselor and person being counseled, what the counsel was, whether the counsel was received or rejected, and what the result was.

1) Counselor:
Counselee:
Counsel:
Response:
Results:

2) Counselor:
Counselee:
Counsel:
Response:
Results:

3) Counselor:
Counselee:
Counsel:
Response:
Results:

6. What event brought Douglass back to Rochester after his escape to Canada and Europe?

7. Read Proverbs 20:11. What were each of the following candidates in the Presidential Election of 1860 “known” for in regard to the issue of expanding slavery in the US?

Stephen Douglas:

John C. Breckenridge:

Abraham Lincoln:

Which candidate’s position do you think was “pure and right?” Why?

8. Read Proverbs 20:13. Name three ways in which Frederick Douglass did not “sleep” but aided the Union cause during the Civil War.

1)

2)

3)

9. Read Proverbs 19:22 and 20:28. How did Abraham Lincoln demonstrate the qualities describe in these verses? How did it impact Douglass' perception of Lincoln?

10. Nearly three-quarters of century before the Civil War, George Mason, a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, warned that slavery would "bring the judgment of heaven on a country. As nations cannot be rewarded or punished in the next world they must be in this. By an inevitable chain of causes & effects Providence punishes national sins by national calamities." Read Proverbs 20:30. How did the American Civil War both fulfill Mason's warning as well as illustrate the truth of Proverbs 20:30? Are there still national sins for which America is (or should) suffer "providential" punishment? Answer in 3-5 sentences.