

THE LINCOLN PRAYER-

November, 1863

EXCERPT—While traveling by train to deliver the Gettysburg Address, President Lincoln prayed for guidance from above. Some things never change.

Heavenly Father,

You are holy above all things,

You created the heavens and stars,

You spoke and Light obeyed.

I am unworthy, but through the blood of your Son

You have made me worthy.

I do not comprehend your thoughts and reasons,

But I know you have placed me here

To fulfill the destiny you have ordained for me.

And like the lights that shine in the heavens

I seek your grace and power to lead me

In the battles of life and death that this nation must face.

There are those that cry aloud “Peace, Peace!”

And I, too, desperately seek peace for our people,

Yet, I know the hearts of evil men following a wicked cause

Are set to destroy the blessings you bestowed upon this great nation.

Their hatred and anger is set against us and those you blessed.

Heavenly Father,

Only you can arise and smite those destroyers and fear-mongers
Who kill for an evil goal of enslavement,
And subjugation of men and righteous ideals.

Lord, please grant me wisdom to discern truth.
Grant me the courage to inspire a blessed people
That are fallen away to mindless customs and distorted thinking.

Heavenly Father,
Conceive In me, and all I encounter the courageous hearts of warriors
To do battle so we and our loved ones may not perish from this earth,
But may grow in your peaceful grace.

Heavenly Father,
I pray for myself --that you may strengthen my mind, spirit and soul,
To achieve a just determination of this bloody war.

I pray for those today in this nation
That you shall bestow a fierce determination
Of courage and unity to shape the crown of victory.

And finally, I pray for those generations to come
That their leaders and peoples shall be gifted with wisdom and knowledge
To understand that the actions undertaken by me and others
Are a part of the divine destiny you have laid on this nation so blessed.

Heavenly Father, lead us to great victory in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.-Amen