

CHRONOLOGICAL EVENTS

Identifying Major Events

Fill in the missing information to complete the chart about major events of the Civil War. Use your own knowledge and secondary sources to complete the activity. Some of the information is included.

Date/Location	Event	Outcome	Significance
			<i>Marked the beginning of the Civil War</i>
		<i>Confederate victory; Beauregard retreats back to Washington, D.C.</i>	
<i>April 6-7, 1862 in Tennessee</i>			
			<i>Union gains command of the Mississippi River</i>
	<i>The Battle of Gettysburg</i>		
<i>September 2 through December 22, 1864 in Georgia</i>			
			<i>End of the war</i>

Emancipation Proclamation

Read the text and answer the questions.

President Lincoln first proposed the idea for the Emancipation Proclamation to his advisors in the summer of 1862. He thought that if Confederate slaves were freed, the Confederacy could no longer use their labor. He also predicted that freed slaves would join the Union cause. However, Lincoln waited for an event that would prove the Union could support such a bold proclamation.

On September 17, 1862, at the Battle of Antietam, Union and Confederate forces clashed on Union soil in the bloodiest single-day battle in American history. The battle resulted in a Union victory, giving President Lincoln the confidence and opportunity to issue the Emancipation Proclamation.

On January 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation declared that all slaves in the ten rebelling Confederate states were free. This applied to 3.1 million slaves in the Confederate states but did not apply to slaves in the Union-sided Border states. Additionally, freedom to all slaves depended on the Union winning the Civil War. With every Union victory in the South, more Confederate slaves were given their freedom.

In effect, the Emancipation Proclamation changed the character of the war. It expanded the focus of the Civil War to the emancipation of slaves as well as the preservation of the Union. The Proclamation also allowed black men to enter the Union army and navy. By the end of the Civil War, approximately 200,000 black men had joined the Union cause for freedom.

- Use a dictionary to define emancipation and proclamation.
 - Use these definitions to write your own definition of Emancipation Proclamation.
- Why did President Lincoln wait until after the Battle of Antietam to issue the Emancipation Proclamation?
- What did the Emancipation Proclamation mean for slaves?
 - Identify at least two ways the power of the Proclamation was limited. Cite evidence from the text to support each answer.
- How did the Emancipation Proclamation affect the the Civil War?