

S.N. May 29, 83 A.M. ✓
Lake Drummond May 29, 94 A.M. ✓ ✓
Lake Drummond May 28, 96 P.M. ✓ ✓

Pro Truman *isn't in a life* REASONS FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Told Newspaper men "The most plants have fallen *Boys if you ever pray, pray for me now!*" 2 Samuel 3:31-38

marked in Marshall graves -

Ex 13:19 Memorial Day is old - Moses Took up the bones of Joseph with him children of Israel *and will surely visit you - Carry up my bones away hence with you*
INTRODUCTION: *Long time ago gave from heart!*

The other day I conducted the funeral service of a baby. When I concluded I noticed a young man standing on the side by himself, with his face away from the crowd, looking into space. And then I observed, there were tears streaming down his cheeks. In a few moments, I asked him about his relationship to the family. Or the deceased. He said, I am not related in any way. I just am so torn up - I was thinking about what you said. About the death of this one. And so there were silent tears, in behalf of someone else. *High Price!*

Heb 9:22 Without the shedding of blood *Pause - There is No Country - No Civilization - No Christianity!*
loss life W. WI Appalling 4 times those in W. WI
Revolution war 1812, Mexican War, Civil War, Spanish American 192,581 Americans lost their lives
50,510 world war I 205,000 world war II

I think at Memorial Day, and season, there is time for the nation to pay *(Gen. Marshall)* tribute to the memory of our heroes who fell on the high places of the field.

And down the path of the national life of America, we have come through the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, *My Great Grandfather was killed C.W. - Pension 49, 49, 49*
My Daddy Navy 2 Bro's Navy - threat war workers
World War I, World War II, and other wars. Prize of kinship make the memory of those who served. And those who died with unselfish sacrifice, and who gave the full measure of life. The memory of the past, serves the present. If it lifts the present above the record of the past.

181 Riv Bouns -

Memorial Day is an important day. As we think of the loyal sons that went forth, who bled, who died, who gave their best. Tomorrow is Memorial Day and a grateful nation will pause to remember the valiant men and women who have given their lives in defense of their country. It is difficult to say appropriate words that would express the true gratitude. Really, everyday should be a Memorial Day for the Christians.

As we think of the past, the memory, of what God has done for us. It is also a time that we might remember others.

In the ruins of an old castle at Killarney are the graves of ancient kings of Ireland. On their tombstones, you may still see the symbols of their royalty. But close beside them, are other monuments which mark graves with swords and the cross. These are the tombs, the guide will tell you, of the crusaders. "Their swords are rust, their good steeds dust, their souls are with their God, we trust."

Gettysburg - Battle is over. The wagon train carrying the wounded under Robert E. Lee's command would extend south for 18 miles.

When we go through some of the old Civil War cemeteries and we think of the patriotism that some of these men had. It was more than just a thing that happened to the flag. It was making the most and the best of one's self. They were citizens that wanted to be true and stand for the principles of their country. And so they worked for freedom.

Pattersonburg - Although's down -
Dwight D. Eisenhower - Patriotism Taught in every home, hamlet, of the country. It did not have to be taught, it was absorbed; it was in all of us, a living emotion!

And it is well that we try to let them live in our hearts. Whittier one time said, memory is the treasure house of the mind, wherein the moments thereof are kept. The monuments are preserved. And so it is as like the years that go by. As one great man was walking along the battle/field of Bull Run. Later, oh he said, look at the delicate flowers growing in the ammunition boxes that are empty. The wild rose coming through the broken Union drum. Even all of this brings peace and gets us on track again.

I think it is the task of the church to bring back some of that glory. And to remember once again that we need to give thanks for those who died.

We need to remember that many of them might have lived. But many of them, were cut short. *Capit Jack How-owl in Tranche Argonne Forest - usual - Advance command - cross field - shells falling - Walking over own dead men - man head taken off - on chest - one he knew - not stop! etc on leave.*

As somebody has said, we can never close our account with those who died on the field of honor. That is why we need to teach and train our youth and boys and girls about the importance of this memory. The measure of life. So Memorial Day dawns once again. And our hearts a loyal gift. Our hero dead of days gone by. Laid with their lives the cornerstone of this Memorial Day.

John McCrae -

*IN Flanders' fields the Poppys blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place, and in the sky
The larks still bravely singing fly*

Oh you who sleep in Flander's Fields
Sleep sweet to rise anew
We caught the torch you threw
And holding high, we kept the faith
With those who die.

*SEAR HEARD Amid the guns below
We are the dead. Short days ago
We live, felt dawn, saw sunset glow
Loved and were loved and now we lie
IN Flanders field.*

We cherish too the poppy red
That grows on fields where valour led
It seems to signal to the sky
That blood of heroes never dies.

But lends a luster to the red
Of the flower that blooms above the dead.
In Flander's Field.

And now the torch and poppy red
 We wear in honor of our dead.
 Fear not, that ye have died for naught
 We have learned the lesson that ye taught.
 In Flander's Field.

If ye break Faith with us Who die
 we shall not sleep though poppy's grow
 in Flanders Field

I want to take this morning and go back in history, and pick up an old story that is little known, about Abner, from the book of 2nd Samuel 3:31 on through to the end of this chapter. There is a text which comes to light - it is deep with emotion and feeling about those who had died. David, has been working for peace. And Abner, who is brought to his grave, not in the course of nature. But by the hand of murder. And a war-like spirit. And by violence. Abner was an officer of distinction under King David. And the King took a large share of the general grief. And the account of his untimely, unlooked for removal. In the Word we read this usual tragic scene which awakens our sympathies - even today.

It seems to me, that as we consider what happened here - we should discover some thing about Memorial Day.

In V. 19-21 - We need to read these verses and discover that David had made a treaty in this war and it was good. And it was going to be the thing that would end war and would bring peace. And Abner went away with peace. He thought it was settled. Sometimes we have that illusion, with nations.

But we check on down in V. 22-23 - and we find that there is fowl play. And we find that Joab came in from battle and we learn that Abner had come and a peace treaty had been signed. And Joab did not like this. Why is it that thou hast sent him away and he is quite gone. Sent him away in peace - V. 24.

V. 26 - When he went out from the presence of David, he sent a messenger to Abner, to invite him to come in. Now David knew not about this plot. But in V. 27, we find that Abner came in, a peaceful man. And at the gate, Joab took him aside as though he was going to have a private conference. And smote him with a sword.

Here was a man who died in the interest of peace. And we find that in the following verses, David said to Joab in V. 31 - and to all the people that were with him. Rend your clothes, put on sack cloth, and mourn for Abner. And the King followed the coffin, the casket. As they bore him away - V. 31.

V. 32 - As they buried him in Hebron, the King lifted up his voice and he wept. And all the people wept. And very briefly in V. 33 - the King said, Abner did not die as a fool dies. In some foolish way as a prisoner or a robber. He died in the interest of peace. And in V. 34 - We find that all the people wept again, following the King's speech.

V. 35 - The King would not eat but fasted. And all the people took notice of it.

V. 38 - The King said, to his servant, do you know there is a prince and a great

man fallen this day in Israel. He challenged them to a Memorial Service.

Let us think about one or two items.

I. LOSS OF EXCELLENT AND USEFUL PEOPLE

Here is a man who was beneficial and excellent, and useful in the Kingdom - and now evil had blotted him out. And how much good he had done and could do.

Abington B.C. National Cemetery "Tomb of Unknown Soldier"
Burial as Nameless young man, gave life conflict -
Countries - Names - F.M.O.s - Families - not forget

First, he was like salt. His example is worthy. His influence was great throughout the community. He had prevented the entire community to degenerate into war. And how can we otherwise weep when we see such great examples, of men who were trying to put out war. And he had no reason to fear the band of wicked men

who had called him to a meeting. Abner came in and was well meaning. He was not

Pro. Region - Pointed Av. Nat. Cemetery - marker Martin Treptow - 1918 left job - Small town Barboursville
aimed for the battle.

France - found Rainbow Division, killed every message between Battalion during heavy Artillery fire

Diary - found on his body: My Pledge American must win this war - therefore I will work - I will serve - I will sacrifice - I will endure - I will fight cheerfully & do my utmost - as if, the issue of

the whole struggle depended on me alone; - days require we serve in best spirit

Second, service. I think David felt the loss in his bereavement of the "our found"

eminent important service of this man. Sometimes many characters and individuals

in our church - they have opportunities to be active. And for service - they have

many talents. They move among us. And it is a most distressing loss. When a

Christian is taken away. Someone, an individual, who has a various talent - it

requires abilities and energies of such to carry on the work. And yet to say, an

eternal "goodbye" - all the people wept over him. I think, when we think about

that, we too share the silent tear, about the service of those who have been lost.

Useful people.

Third, the benefit. It was an important thing that was expected of Abner. There actually resulted here - one who was trying to carry on peace. And now, he goes and is silent in the grave. Who can really say what he would have had ability to offer to us. And to save from many dangers and hardships. And the benefits that would have resulted. The man who feared God - who tried to serve Israel. And he was doing a signal service. And his name has been put down in the book of God's remembrance. That all the people should weep over the lost.

2:126 *Abner said to Josh, shall the sword devour for ever? "Did you not know that will be bitterness in the latter end?"*

Fourth, the bitter ingredient. As I think of the loss of useful people, I think it appears to me that some of these people were unworthy of the blessings that they had enjoyed. They were not sensitive about what God had done for them. Until he has been called home - this perfect servant. And has been removed and no one had really appreciated him and his labor of love. But now, he is gone. And there are reasons that we could give. Wicked men fell upon him. And that is a bitter ingredient. When you think about God caring for even the sparrow that falleth on the ground. Not without the Heavenly Father's eye - you think of a man. When all of the things seem to be going toward peace. And now when they all come together, it is not surprising to hear it said, all the people wept again over him.

4:11 *Paul's son heard Abner had died - wept & repented - 1 - His courage failed - 2, all Israel dismayed - without hope -*

We think of the catastrophies of the Civil War, World War I and II, and Vietnam and the other wars. And the loss of lives. Irreparable loss. We do not really know how to express the things that we have lost through this bitter ingredient which is gone into the destruction of so many.

Approximately 100 years Civil War - Bruce Cadon - 3rd of April - celebration

III. INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE PAST

First, weep with them that weep. My brethren, if our loss is so great and our grief so deep, that they have lost - and what must they endure. We could not attempt to describe the feeling.

He walked through our cemetery and noted many names - some born before the Civil War - WW
Bear ye, says the tender Apostle, to the Disciples of Jesus - one another's burdens.

And so fulfill the law of Christ. How desolate we are, most of us, at this point. Who wants to bear anybody else's burden. But when such a man is absent dies, and he dies in such a manner as this. The whole nation must go to the throne of grace. And let us go with them. For there, and there only, can they find grace to help them. In every practical way. And especially by day and by night - when we bow the knee in prayer.

They may reap and benefit, in the strong supports they feel. But David, V. 31-32, the Bible says he followed the casket to the grave. And that the people wept.

Another thing that caused them to weep in V. 33 - Abner was not a fool. He was a patriot. He was a good man.

Brave - The Army's Distinguished Service Cross was conferred on 4 Army Chaplains who gave their own life jackets to others aboard the transport Dorchester - torpedoed in icy water - Greenland A.M. Feb 3 1943

Second, make improvements. I think this is another instruction. Not only weep with them that weep. But we need to say to ourselves - lets make improvements. Lets begin with our own lives. In V. 35 - David said, and the people came to him. They wanted him to eat as on other days, and David said - so do God to me and more also. If I taste bread - or ought else til the sun go down. In other words, David had such deep respect that he said, I am not going to eat and banquet until the sun goes down. I am going to spend this time in meditation for my own life. Probably, considering how he might improve. And this would be something for us to stir up the gift of God that is in

national Guard and Bedford -
-10- whole unit sent together after the
war - any no longer put them together
they would first save seed, boat

us. And that God had given us. And to think about the talents and the loss of our
dear deceased friends. And fellow citizens - who are now buried in their grave. He
might employ this thought - to somehow improve our own beings. And I would exhort

you to learn to redeem the time for the days are evil. Bedford Va. Lot more
small than any other capita - July 1918 "D Day" Paper full of
19 killed on O'Maha Beach in Co. A Nat. Guard
wrote 96% casualties - Wade above - 13 remaining buried
to Bedford

Third, prepare for death. Now this is so uncertain in human life. In V. 38 -

why who had thought - there was peace. But here there were still the rumblings of war.
And here we are, we mourn. Disease comes. And we seldom ever think about it until
it invades our frame. And the grave promises a very long, long stay. And yet, Abner
at last dies suddenly. As a man falleth before wicked men, so fell he.

Remember Inis - My Dropped / constant - & your / sudden -
The Purple Heart! - challenge to inventory self -
page

It seems to me that he was prepared for that stroke. It found him in a state of
preparation to meet God. He was calm and resigned. I think we need to admonish each
other today. For such an hour as we think not, the son of man may come. And if he
cometh on us by surprise, in an unexpected moment - and we are hurried away to the bar
of God. What will be the terror of our feelings. He that is unjust - let him be unjust
still. He that is filthy - let him be filthy still. But if we can get instructions on
this Memorial Day, we can see the uncertainty of human life in our text. We will also
see the unstableness of human greatness. Abner was an important man. And we will also
see the presence of wickedness that is ever there.

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Fourth, glorify God. Throughout this experience, I want you to notice the people
and the King. They sought to glorify God. And recognize that a great man had fallen.

That a great prince in Israel had lost his life. And they also took stock that the Lord
V. 39 - will reward the doer of evil according to his wickedness. They put it in the hands

To receive Christ into your heart. And to say "Yes" come into my life. And
thirdly, be willing to let God have his way in your life at all costs. We have thought
about those who have paid the supreme price. We need to remember that Jesus Christ paid
this price with his own life on the cross. And for your salvation. And now I am sure,
that you will come and make such a decision.

Harry Lander stood by the grave of his boy, died for country -
said Oh God that I could have one request -
it would be that I might embrace my laddie again,
"I'd be his country & humanity."

