

Gettysburg Address Quotations

Writer: Abraham Lincoln | Generated: Jan 26, 2026

"We can not dedicate... we can not hallow this ground." Explanation: Lincoln means that no ceremony or speech can make the battlefield more sacred than the sacrifice already made by the soldiers. "All men are created equal." Explanation: Lincoln says that every human being is born with equal rights, no matter their race, color, or background.

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"To be dedicated here to the unfinished work."

Explanation: He urges the living to continue the work of unity and freedom that the soldiers died for.

"The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it."

Explanation: Lincoln says the battlefield has already been made holy by the sacrifices of the soldiers.

"This nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom."

Explanation: Lincoln believes that through sacrifice, the nation will rise again with greater freedom and justice.

"Government of the people, by the people, for the people."

Explanation: Lincoln defines democracy as a system where the government belongs to the people, is run by the people, and works for their welfare.

"Shall not perish from the earth."

Explanation: Lincoln expresses hope that true democracy will live forever and never disappear from the world.

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

Explanation: Lincoln reminds the people that 87 years ago, the Founding Fathers created a new nation based on liberty and the belief that every human being is born equal.

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