

# LINCOLN LORE

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## THE PREACHERS PRAISE LINCOLN

Abraham Lincoln was not affiliated with any orthodox church, but no group of citizens has been more generous than the clergymen in giving him a high and holy place in world civilization. Even students who may be keenly interested in this unique character often fail to sense the fact that Lincoln is much more than just another national figure. Without doubt, he is today the most revered universal character which the world has produced since the beginning of the Christian era. This issue of Lincoln Lore contains some excerpts from the tributes of many leading American clergymen, well known by name at least to the great masses of people in this country.

### A Prophet of Righteousness

"It means much that the writer of these words, a child of the South, the son of a man who wore the gray, bows in love and awe before the great and gentle memory of Lincoln, himself a son of the South. . . . Never in our history have the qualities of seer, orator and leader met in any person as they did in that strange, sad, lonely man, whose life is a legend like the great ones of old. Simple, wise, far-seeing, he belongs of right with the prophets of righteousness and the doers of the will of God, uniting a relentless justice with the touch of an everlasting mercy."

—Dr. Joseph Fort Newton

### A Christian Personality

"I know of no modern statesman whose personality, character and actions are more conducive to genuine Christianity than are those of Abraham Lincoln. And this assertion, if it be true, is the more impressive because he made no churchly profession . . . religion has many dialects, many diverse complexions, but it has one true voice—the voice of human pity, of mercy, of patient justice.' Not since that voice resounded in Jerusalem, Antioch, Athens, Rome, and in Wesley's England, has it been heard more clearly and convincingly than from Lincoln in America."

—Dr. S. Parkes Cadman

### A Christ in Miniature

"It was love that transfigured Abraham Lincoln's life. His life was an exposition of the thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians. Tolstoy called him 'A Christ in Miniature'."

—Dr. Edgar DeWitt Jones

### Idol of Millions

"The picture and name of Abraham Lincoln are more widely known throughout the world than any other except Jesus Christ. I have seen his picture in cabins in Borneo, in Sumatra, China, India and South America. He is the idol of the millions of the earth."

—Bishop Homer C. Stuntz

### An American Saint

"He was a great man and he was a good man. If we were starting out to canonize some of our American Protestant saints I should be in favor of beginning with Abraham Lincoln."

—Dean Charles Reynolds Brown

### A Predominately Spiritual Man

"I find in him literally a child of God, not that others are not divine in origin, but that God entered into his life more profoundly and palpably than falls to the lot of the generality of men. In this I find the wellspring of his superb and rare power. He was fundamentally and predominantly a spiritual man . . . I place Lincoln along with the great prophets of ancient Israel."

—Rabbi Alexander Lyons

### A Memorial of Jesus

"He believed absolutely in God and in God's intervention in the lives of men on behalf of justice and the right. Lincoln typifies in noblest form the inevitable revolt of men from historic Christianity. There is something so deep, so profound, so touching in his religious faith that one is reminded instantly of Jesus."

—Dr. John Haynes Holmes

### One Marching Abroad

"Mothers shall teach thy name to their lisping children. The youth of our land shall emulate thy virtues. Statesmen shall study this record and learn lessons of wisdom. Mute though thy lips be, yet they still speak. Hushed is thy voice but its echoes of liberty are ringing through the world, and the sons of bondage listen with joy. Prisoned thou art in death, and yet thou art marching abroad; and chains and manacles are bursting at thy touch."

—Bishop Matthew Simpson

### An Incarnation

"For Lincoln does not die. He moves on. He reincarnates. He is the advancing Common Sense of All."

—Dr. Frank Crane

### Hero

"The world's hero."

—Dr. C. F. Aked

### The Universal Lincoln

"I doubt whether any historical character is as well known over the entire world as Abraham Lincoln. Wherever I have gone in the Orient I have seen pictures of Lincoln. In India, Burma, Siam and every land in the East, Abraham Lincoln is the one American whose name is universally known and honored."

—Bishop Fred B. Fisher

### "Leen-corn" on 10,000 Lips

"I have followed that trail to Korea and have heard the voices of the independent movement of Korea with the name of 'Leen-corn' on 10,000 lips. I have gone to China and to the Philippines and to India, and have heard the name of Lincoln on the lips of Aquinaldo, on the lips of Jose Rizal and in the philosophy of Ghandi. I have gone to Russia and I have heard the name of Abraham Lincoln on the lips of Russian peasants."

—Dr. William L. Stidger

### An Immeasurable Supreme Character

"Most of the great names of the earth represent a discovery of pre-existing treasures, but Lincoln's fame rests upon this fact—he created his own continent and brought into existence his own achievement for mankind. More and more men are beginning to realize his unique supremacy, even though they do not know what makes this immeasurable supremacy . . . At the moment of his death, Secretary Stanton exclaimed: 'Now he belongs to the ages!' but he might well have added: 'Henceforth Abraham Lincoln belongs to all the races and all the continents, for all time.'"

—Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis

### A Marching Soul

"Lincoln is not dead. His soul goes marching on. In this new day with its new deliverances from injustice, tyranny, intolerance and inhumanity, the spirit of the martyred liberator still lives. Hallelujah!"

—Dr. Joseph R. Sizoo