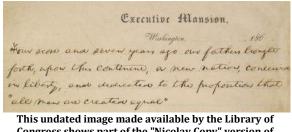
## THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS Abraham Lincoln November 19, 1863

[Posted by Steve Bakke 🛤 November 19, 2013]



Congress shows part of the "Nicolay Copy" version of the five known drafts of President Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.



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.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate, we can not consecrate, we can not hallow, this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln November 19, 1863 *It's our catechism. It's our marching orders ..... He essentially doubled down on the Declaration of Independence.* – Filmmaker Ken Burns, whose next film spotlights the Gettysburg Address. These comments about Lincoln's brief but majestic speech at Gettysburg were offered in an interview with USA Today.

The following is taken from USA Today:

Lincolns speech came on November 19, 1863, dedicating a cemetery to those who died at the battle of Gettysburg 4½ months before.



ALEXANDER GARDNER, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, VIA AP President Abraham Lincoln is surrounded at the dedication of Gettysburg on Nov. 19, 1863.