



Pastor's Comments

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A Man to Remember

This year marks the bicentennial of the birth of one of the greatest of Christian Americans. While he was a fierce warrior, and one of the greatest of military leaders of any time, it is this man's character, grace under fire, and gentlemanliness that are his enduring legacy. He is the only man to ever graduate from West Point with NO demerits! His devotion to duty was unequalled. Of the performance of necessary, though often distasteful, tasks he said, "Duty is the sublimest word in the language. You can never do more than your duty. You should never wish to do less."

He encouraged the revival that surged among his troops and left behind evidences of changed lives – army camps and trails strewn with discarded playing cards, tobacco, and other worldly amusements. It is said that his government stated that he seemed more interested in saving souls than winning battles. He stated, "My chief concern is to try to be an humble, earnest Christian." He was a tremendous example of the Christ-like grace of being free of the disabling motives of retribution and vengeance. After the war, he refused to countenance criticism by a student under his leadership of the leading general of the opposing army. At his death, his wife remarked that her greatest loss was of his example and character.

Some Christian leaders today tell us that obedience to God will always bring success in earthly endeavors, and the achieving of our believed-to-be noble goals. This Christian, warrior, educator, and leader of others demonstrated that it is not always God's will that it be so. He lost the cause that was the foremost struggle of his life. His name: Robert E. Lee. Born: Jan 19, 1807.

– Submitted by church member,
Carl Edwards

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