

A DAY TO REMEMBER

MAY 24, 2020

INTRODUCTION – EXODUS 12:14

Spiritually and naturally speaking, there are certain days we should remember. Spiritually: The Sabbath, the Passover, and the feast days that were to be kept. Naturally: Wedding anniversary, birthday, a special occasion and certain holidays. Tomorrow, we celebrate a day we set aside to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice and paid the ultimate price to ensure the many freedoms we enjoy as Americans.

- WW2 – 291,557 American Revolutionary – 8,000
- American Civil – 214,938 Iraq – 3,836
- WW1 – 53,402 War of 1812 – 2,260
- Viet Naam – 47,424 Afghanistan – 1,833
- Korean War – 33,686 Mexican American – 1,733

A total of 658,669 lives lost to ensure our liberties and freedoms. It's one thing to share numbers, but another to be an eye witness to the death of a fellow soldier and friend.

- Witness one – Remembers the day the chopper was shot down that was to airlift his crew to safety. They had to wait until morning for the next chopper to arrive. When it came, he attempted to wake up a fellow soldier only to witness his face was missing when he turned him over.
- Witness two – Will never forget the day he witnessed three fellow soldiers losing their lives to enemy fire while serving in Viet Naam.
- Witness three – July 29, 1967 It started out as a beautiful day, but ended with him witnessing the death of 200 soldiers. Bodies were on fire and body parts were dismembered and hurled through the air from exploding bombs. What do these survivors want us to remember as we celebrate Memorial Day?
 1. Not to take for granted the freedoms we have in America, and don't ever disrespect or dishonor the flag.
 2. Veterans are blessed to survive and come home to family and friends. Don't take anyone or anything for granted.
 3. Protect the freedoms we have. Don't ever allow war to come to our country.

THE EFFECT ON FAMILY

On May 20, 1967, a young girl was informed her 18-year-old brother was killed at war by enemy fire. He was engaged to be married, a soft-spoken successful individual who chose to serve his country instead of opting out because of his religious beliefs. He gave his life, his parents lost a son, his siblings lost a brother and a woman lost her fiancé. All for the cause of freedom.

THE GREATEST DAY TO REMEMBER

1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-26

We can't begin to understand the effect 658,669 lives lost have had on the loved ones and friends they left behind. But as precious as those lives are and were, all of their sacrifices put together could never deliver one person from the bondage of sin and spiritual death. National freedom isn't eternal.

HEBREWS 2:14-15 (NIV)

Only one man's death delivers from eternal bondage and slavery.

- **1 PETER 1:18-19** – Only the Blood of Jesus delivers from eternal death.
- **REVELATION 1:18 (NIV), 5:1-14**

WHAT TO REMEMBER?

- Everyone needs salvation. **ROMANS 3:23**
- Man can't save himself. **MATTHEW 19:25-26**
- Religion can't save. **GALATIANS 3:10-12**
- Animal blood can't save. **HEBREWS 10:1-4**
- A body was prepared for Christ. **HEBREWS 10:5-12**
- Christ's obedience and humility. **PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8**
- Christ came to destroy Satan's works. **1 JOHN 3:8**
- Christ was victorious. **REVELATION 1:18**
- Christ is the only way to the Father. **JOHN 14:6**

CONCLUSION:

May we never take for granted the lives that were sacrificed for us to enjoy the freedoms we have in America. And may we never forget the sacrifice Jesus made for us to enjoy freedom from sin, death and hell! **JOHN 15:13**