



Alan C. Page,
Justice, Minnesota Supreme
Court (retired), narrator

Alan C. Page was elected to the Minnesota Supreme Court in 1992, becoming the first African-American on the court and one of the few associate justices ever to join initially through election, rather than appointment by the governor. He was re-elected in 1998, 2004 and 2010, and served until he reached mandatory retirement age in 2015. First known for his skills in football, Page was a first-round draft choice of the Minnesota Vikings in 1967, playing with the team until 1978. In 1971 he was named the NFL's Most Valuable Player, becoming only the second defensive player in history to be given that honor. He has since been inducted into both the College Football Hall of Fame and Pro Football Hall of Fame. Justice Page and his wife Diane founded the Page Education Foundation, which assists Minnesota students of color in their pursuit of post-secondary education. To date, the foundation has awarded over \$13 million in grants to more than 4,500 individuals. More: page-ed.org.

Lincoln Portrait

The words of Abraham Lincoln as spoken
in Aaron Copland's *Lincoln Portrait*

"Fellow citizens, we cannot escape history. We of this congress and this administration will be remembered in spite of ourselves. No personal significance or insignificance can spare one or another of us. The fiery trial through which we pass will light us down in honor or dishonor to the latest generation. We, even we here, hold the power and bear the responsibility."
[Annual Message to Congress, December 1, 1862]

"The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew. We must disenthrall ourselves and then we will save our country."
[Annual Message to Congress, December 1, 1862]

"It is the eternal struggle between two principles, right and wrong, throughout the world. It is the same spirit that says 'you toil and work and earn bread, and I'll eat it.' No matter in what shape it comes, whether from the mouth of a king who seeks to bestride the people of his own nation, and live by the fruit of their labor, or from one race of men as an apology for enslaving another race, it is the same tyrannical principle."
[Lincoln-Douglas debate, October 15, 1858]

"As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of democracy. Whatever differs from this, to the extent of the difference, is no democracy."
[Private writings, ca. August 1858]

"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, and for the people shall not perish from the earth."
[Gettysburg Address, November 19, 1863]