

Possible Document-Based Question:

This question is based on the accompanying documents. Analyze Abraham Lincoln's views on equality and race compared to others who lived at the same time.

Sources:

- General Benjamin Butler: The Jews "Betrayed Their Savior & Also Have Betrayed Us," October 23, 1862
<https://www.shapell.org/manuscript/antisemitic-civil-war-general-benjamin-butler-jews-betrayed-savior/>
- William Tecumseh Sherman Vents Anti-Semitic Prejudices, Discusses Runaway Slaves, & Sketches Total War, November 2, 1862
<https://www.shapell.org/manuscript/william-tecumseh-sherman-antisemitism-runaway-slaves-total-war/>
- American Civil War Union General George B. McClellan's Antisemitic Letter, August, 1875
<https://www.shapell.org/manuscript/anti-semetic-civil-war-union-general-george-mcclellan/>
- Ulysses S. Grant Tries to Lose the Anti-Semite Label Engendered to Him by His Infamous "Jew Order," August 14, 1868
<https://www.shapell.org/manuscript/ulysses-grant-antisemite-labelcivil-war-jew-orde-no-11/>
- Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address:
 - Excerpt: "Both read the same Bible and pray to the same God, and each invokes His aid against the other. It may seem strange that any men should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men's faces, but let us judge not, that we be not judged. The prayers of both could not be answered. That of neither has been answered fully. The Almighty has His own purposes."
- [Abraham Lincoln letter to Joshua Speed, August 24, 1855](#)
 - Excerpt: "I am not a Know-Nothing. That is certain. How could I be? How can any one who abhors the oppression of negroes, be in favor of degrading classes of white people? Our progress in degeneracy appears to me to be pretty rapid. As a nation, we began by declaring that "all men are created equal." We now practically read it "all men are created equal, except negroes" When the Know-Nothings get control, it will read "all men are created equal, except negroes, and foreigners, and Catholics." When it comes to this I should prefer emigrating to some country where they make no pretence of loving liberty -- to Russia, for instance, where despotism can be taken pure, and without the base alloy of hypocrisy [sic]."