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Chapter 13

**Directions**: answer the following questions completely. No answer should be one word or sentence. Use the who, what, when, where, why, and how as a guide to answering the questions.

1. **Did religion serve as a unifying or dividing force in antebellum America?** Religion can be served as both a unifying force and a dividing force in antebellum America. The role of religion was extremely important in antebellum America. But overall, religion had served as a unifying force in this time period because religion brought a group of people together who believed in the same ideas. People who had similar thoughts and ideas will unify each other. For example, Brigham Young was a Mormon who had a unified group of Mormons that banded together to travel to Utah. They only were unified and strong because they believed in the same religion and had trust in each other. Furthermore, religion could also be served as a dividing force in antebellum America. While religion unified the Christians in believing that slavery was not wrong, it would divide other religions. Three major Protestant denomination churches became divided because of slavery. The Methodists, Baptists and Presbyterians became divided. For instance, the Northern Methodist congregations opposed slavery, while the Southern Methodist church thought slavery should be part of the legal system. The differing opinions and beliefs of slavery would divide religions. In all, religion served as a dividing and unifying force in antebellum America.
2. **Why was the Utah Territory an ideal place for the Mormons to settle?** The Utah Territory was an ideal place for the Mormons to settle because of the geographic location. Utah has a lot of territory and land. Furthermore, Utah could have soil that is able to be used for agricultural purposes. The Mormons had thought about other states to settle in, such as Texas, Canada and California. But they had their eyes on Utah because it was owned by Mexico during the time. Mexico didn’t keep watch over Utah seriously. Moreover, Utah had a low population, and the valleys were full of freshwater. Utah was not a territory that was fought over too, because no other people wanted to claim Utah. All of these factors resulted in Young and the Mormons to move to Utah in 1846.
3. **Discuss the distinguishing characteristics of American literature during the antebellum period**. The distinguishing characteristics of American literature during the antebellum period were that they were usually dark and religious. Authors such as Nathaniel Hawthorne, Herman Melville, Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, Edgar Allen Poe, Emerson and Thoreau. American literature during the antebellum period were realistic and were dark. Some themes of the writers were gothic horror, detective stories, psychological, philosophical and poems. For instance, Edgar Allen Poe wrote about death and wrote about terror and suspense. Emily Dickinson wrote poems about religion and mysticism. Dickinson wrote about immortality, God, Eternity, Heaven, and death. In 1851, 32-year-old Melville published Moby-Dick, a philosophical and psychological story that dwells deep into the dark side of the soul.
4. **Describe THREE of the different social-reform movements and their goals**. Three of the different social-reform movements and their goals are the Temperance Movement, Abolitionist Movement, and Women’s Suffrage Movement. First, the Temperance Movement started in the 1820s and was caused to limit the use of drinking alcohol. The alcohol abuse was abundant, and advocates of the Temperance Movement argued alcohol led to domestic violence and poverty. The Temperance Movement was led by women and the original goal was to lessen the amount of alcohol consumed by Americans. Then, as the movement became more popular, the goal began to change. First, the goal changed to a voluntary abstinence and then the final goal was to ban the manufacture and selling of alcohol. Next, the Abolitionist Movement started around the 1830s, and its main goal was to end slavery in America. Many would contribute to freeing all slaves, such as people writing newspapers promoting being an abolitionist. Others would help slaves to gain their freedom. The Abolitionist Movement was an effort to end slavery and the religious movement, The Second Great Awakening, had inspired many abolitionists to try to end slavery. Finally, the Women’s Suffrage Movement started in 1848, where many activists wanted women the right to vote. The Seneca Falls Convection in New York was a meeting where hundreds of people discussed about the suffrage of women and their rights. The outcome of the Women’s Suffrage Movement was that it promoted human welfare and benefitted society.
5. **Discuss the southern defense of slavery before and after 1830.** The southern defense of slavery before 1830 stated that slavery was a necessary evil. During that time, cotton was one of the biggest cash crops and was very profitable. Southerners argued that slavery was needed to maintain and sell the cotton to benefit the economy of the South and for the money. The emergence of cotton as an important cash crop in the United States made it so slavery was needed to keep the economy intact. Then, after 1830, Southerners began to argue that slavery was a positive good. The Southerners claimed that the slaves were actually happy working for their masters. The slaves were actually very happy, well cared for, and had decent working conditions. Some Southerners would even claim that being a slave was better than being a factory worker. The defense of slavery would change due to the abolitionist movement, the reliance on cotton as a cash crop, and the racism of the Southerners.
6. Identify each of the following and their **significance**:
   1. **Second Great Awakening** – The Second Great Awakening was a religious revival movement in the 19th century in the United States. The series of religious revivals had started in 1801 and the intention of these revivals was to improve the lifestyle of American citizens. The impact of religion in America was great because of the Second Awakening. The movement spread throughout the western states and throughout the East. Many new religious groups formed out of this event and new religious ideas were created. The purpose was to help the morality of American citizens and for them to adopt virtues like frugality, hard work and temperance. The Second Great Awakening significant in history because it led to the initiation of reform movements. Movements such as the Abolishment Movement in the 1830s, Temperance Movement in the 1820s and the Women’s Suffrage Movement in the 1840s all stemmed from the Second Great Awakening.
   2. **Brigham Young** – Brigham Young, born in 1801, was the successor to Joseph Smith, a Mormon. Young became the religious leader of the Mormon Church after the death of Joseph Smith. Young would move the Mormon community to Utah and led thousands of people on the Mormon Trail where they would settle at Salt Lake City. Brigham Young was intelligent, strong-minded, and authoritarian. Young had promised the Illinois officials that he and the Mormons will leave the state to Great Salt Lake, Utah, which was 1,300 miles away. To be more specific, Young and 12,000 Mormons traveled by foot and wagon in 1846 to the “promised land” in Utah. Young was credited for populating Utah and for the survival of the sect.
   3. **Dorothea Dix** – Dorothea Dix was a New England teacher, social reformer and author who spoke against the cruel treatment for prisoners who were mentally insane. She had devoted herself to improve the quality of life in American society. Dorothea Dix is responsible for improving the living conditions of jails, insane asylums and poorhouses in Canada and the United States. She spent 8 years traveling over 60,000 miles to get information for her reports. In those reports, Dix speculated that insanity was a disease of the mind and was not a willful act by a person. After a two-year investigation in Massachusetts of the treatment of the mentally ill, she would present her findings to the states. Dix would win the support of leading reformers and successfully persuaded twenty states to improve and reform their treatment of the mentally ill. Furthermore, Dix convinced nine southern states to establish hospitals for the mentally ill and focused on the idea of rehabilitation.
   4. **Seneca Falls Convention** – The Seneca Falls Convention was a meeting held on July 19th, 1848, and was the first women’s rights meeting. The Seneca Falls Convention was the first important step forward in the evolving campaign for the rights of women. The purpose of the convention was put together to promote women’s suffrage. Furthermore, it was to promote the reform of property and martial laws of women. Over hundreds of women and about 40 men came to the convention to discuss about women’s rights and the equality between men and women. The Seneca Falls Convention was organized by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, a prominent reformer and advocate for women’s rights. The Declaration of Sentiments was written as a result of the convention and signed in 1848, stating that the men and women are equal, and women should have the right to vote.
   5. **William Lloyd Garrison** – William Lloyd Garrison is an American abolitionist from Massachusetts, born in 1805. Furthermore, Garrison was a social reformer and journalist. Garrison was the editor of the anti-slavery newspaper, the Liberator. The Liberator was a weekly abolitionist newspaper that was first published in 1831 that denounced people and laws that supported slavery. Garrison was more moralistic than practical. Garrison’s newspaper helped to draw attention to abolition, but there were mixed responses, both positive and negative. Conflict arose from the supporters of slavery and abolitionists who opposed slavery. William Lloyd Garrison and his newspaper, the Liberator were both significant in American history because of their contribution to supporting the abolitionist movement and anti-slavery.
   6. **Frederick Douglass** – Frederick Douglass was a former slave in the United States, orator and abolitionist. Douglass was born in Maryland as a slave but escaped from slavery around the age of 20 years old. Frederick Douglass had always believed in the liberty and freedom of the slaves. Douglass’s main objectives were to end slavery and also, he had advocated for the suffrage of women. Douglass was a very good speaker and taught himself. He escaped from Maryland went to Massachusetts to deliver speeches to groups of people. He would begin writing his autobiography, Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass and published it in 1845 to gain awareness of the abolitionist movement. Then, Douglass published an abolitionist newspaper for the blacks, called the North Star in Rochester, New York. Douglass would help to fund the Liberty Party in 1840, the Free-Soil Party in 1848, and then the Republican Party in the 1850s.
   7. **Underground Railroad** – The Underground Railroad was a large system of secret routes of abolitionists that helped African American slaves to escape from enslavement in southern United States. Abolitionists helped slaves by sheltering them, feeding them, hiding them and taking care of them and to help them to plan routes to head to the North. The Underground Railroad helped slaves to escape to Canada or to the free Northern states. It was the largest anti-slavery movement in the United States and had an estimated amount of around 40,000 fugitives that successfully became free. Between 1810 and 1850, tens of thousands of fugitive slaves would run away using the Underground Railroad to escape slavery. Some would even come back to help organize more escapes. The Underground Railroad is important because it served as a way for slaves to escape their cruel lifestyle and forced labor as a slave.
   8. **Harriet Tubman** – Harriet Tubman was an abolitionist who was a former slave in Maryland. After escaping slavery using the Underground Railroad, she came back to the South to help other slaves to escape. Harriett Tubman would go back to the South 19 times and help more than 300 slaves escape to the North. She was known as the Black Moses of the South because just like Moses, she led people to the North to escape from their slavey. She was important to United States history because she helped to construct and find the Underground Railroad and she helped free hundreds of slaves. Furthermore, Harriet Tubman had a $40,000 bounty on her head for helping slaves to escape. She was never caught or lost a slave that she was trying to free.
   9. **Sojourner Truth** – Sojourner Truth was born a slave in New York in 1797 and was given the birth name of Isabella Hardenbergh. She was a United States abolitionist, women’s rights advocate and orator. She escaped slavery in 1827 and fought for women’s rights and fought for black emancipation. She garnered an audience and supporters through her moving speeches that spoke against slavery. After escaping slavery with her daughter, Truth fought in court for the custody of her son and became the first black women to win in a court case against a white male. Her significance was that she was an influence and was the inspiration for other blacks and for women to fight for their rights and freedom.
7. **Evaluate the goals, methods, leadership, and success of the abolitionist movement.** The goal of the Abolitionist Movement was to put an end to slavery. There were many methods of the Abolitionist Movement, such as non-violent tactics, like protests, speeches, and petitions. Furthermore, people like William Lloyd Garrison wrote and published anti-slavery newspapers to promote the abolitionist movement and showed how cruel slavery was. Moreover, people like Harriet Tubman helped hundreds of slaves to escape slavery by guiding them through the Underground Railroad to the North. Amazing leaders such as Frederick Douglass, William Lloyd Garrison, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Harriet Tubman and more were involved in the Abolitionist Movement to try to get rid of slavery. In the end, the Abolitionist Movement was successful because in 1865, The 13th Amendment was put in place and ratified, which made slavery in the United States illegal.