

Witness the Bloody Clash at Antietam: The Battle That Shook the Nation



A panoramic view of the Battle of Antietam



Great Battlefields of the Civil War - Antietam

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On September 17, 1862, the bloodiest single-day battle in American history unfolded in the rolling hills of Maryland. The Battle of Antietam pitted the Union Army under General George B. McClellan against the Confederate Army under General Robert E. Lee. The battle was a turning point in the Civil War, and it ultimately led to the Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln.

The battle began at dawn as the Union forces crossed Antietam Creek and attacked the Confederate forces entrenched on a series of hills. The fighting was intense and bloody, and by nightfall, over 23,000 men had been killed, wounded, or captured. The Confederate Army was forced to retreat, and the Union Army claimed a tactical victory.

The Battle of Antietam was a major turning point in the Civil War. It was the first time that the Union Army had defeated the Confederate Army in a major battle, and it gave President Lincoln the confidence to issue the Emancipation Proclamation, which freed all slaves in the Confederate territories.

The battle also had a profound impact on the American people. The carnage and bloodshed at Antietam shocked the nation and brought the realities of war home to everyone. It also helped to galvanize support for the Union cause and led to the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment, which abolished slavery in the United States.



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